

**KDP Leader
Massoud
Barzani
Yesterday Said
He Accepts
Only 5 Articles
of Peace Signed
in Ankara with
Rival PUK**
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IRAN NEWS

**On the Auspicious Occasion of
Birthday of Hazrat Fatima al-Zahra
(S.A.) and the Recommendation of
Judiciary Chief Ayatollah Yazdi,
Leader of Islamic Iran Ayatollah
Seyed Ali Khamenei Yesterday
Pardoned 65 Female Convicts**

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President Hails Iranian Women's Progressive Move

TEHRAN (IRNA) - President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani here yesterday said that the attractive progressive move launched by Iranian women, along with their commitment and expertise in social activities, has introduced a new way of life to the contemporary human beings.

Speaking at a ceremony at Azadi Stadium celebrating the birth anniversary of Hazrat Fatima (S.A.), daughter of Prophet Mohammad (P.B.U.H.), and of the late Imam Khomeini, the President said the widespread and profound efforts of women toward progress and elevation herald a bright and prosperous future for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Addressing thousands of women at the stadium, he said the present magnificent gathering and the high spirit of the audience indicate a worthy and positive development in women's community.

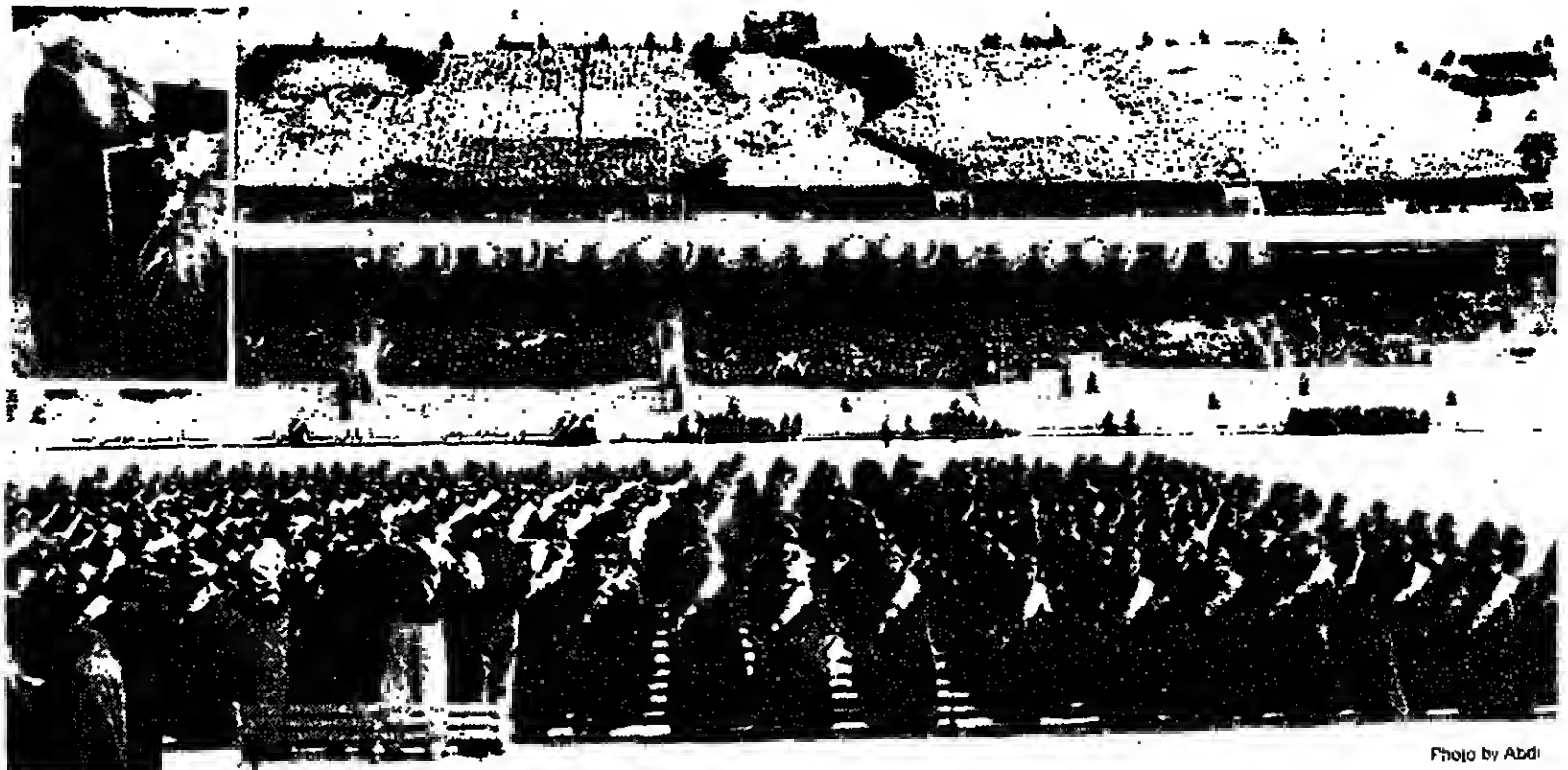
"We want to present the Islamic world with a befitting model of women's social life in the Islamic Revolution, and you are the vanguards of this sacred path," he said.

He said the social progress of women in Iran is a source of pride for the country and urged for perpetuation of this trend.

Iranian women have displayed their capabilities on battlefields during the Sacred Defense by bringing up committed men and during the reconstruction era by acquiring science and knowledge and foiling all plots orchestrated by the enemies.

He offered his felicitations on the birth anniversary of Hazrat Fatima (A.S.) and of the late Imam Khomeini and added, "You, Iranian women, are following the pattern set by the Prophet's daughter, the symbol of a committed and progressive woman."

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President Rafsanjani attended the Milad-e Kowsar ceremonies held at Tehran's Azadi Stadium yesterday.

Nateq-Nouri to Visit Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan & India

BY IRFAN PARVIZ

TEHRAN - In a diplomatic move aimed at boosting Iran's regional prestige, veteran politician and presidential candidate Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri goes on a three-nation tour later this month.

The nine-day tour, scheduled to begin Nov. 20, will take Majlis Speaker Nateq-Nouri to Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and India.

Kazakhstan's capital, Almaty, will be his first stop where he will hold talks with senior government officials including President Nursultan Nazarbayev.

Central Asia is of great significance to Iran's foreign policy and

Kazakhstan is one of the major countries among the former republics of the Soviet Union.

Nateq-Nouri will head a high-level politico-economic delegation on this trip, his first to Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and India as Speaker of the Majlis.

Nateq-Nouri's visit is very significant considering his candidacy for president in the upcoming Iranian elections next July.

"Mr. Nateq-Nouri and his hosts in Almaty, Dushanbe and New Delhi will have an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual interest and enhance the existing relations and understandings," one analyst commented.

Talking to IRAN NEWS, he said, "Actually, Nateq-Nouri's hosts will be talking to a person who will most probably become the next president of Iran."

Nateq-Nouri was nominated as the presidential candidate by the most powerful political faction, Jame-e Rouhaniat-e-Mobarez (JRM) on Thursday.

NEWS ANALYSIS

A large number of top government officials including President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani are members of the JRM.

Nateq-Nouri has also won the support of one of the most powerful politico-religious institutions, the Association of Qom Seminary Teachers (AQST).

Many observers believe that several other political factions will also extend their support to Nateq-Nouri in the near future, and that his enhanced chances for presidency will be reflected in talks with his hosts during his trip which are expected to focus on

long-range plans for bilateral cooperation in various areas.

Iran and Kazakhstan already have 'satisfactory' ties in various areas of bilateral cooperation. Both countries are littoral states of the Caspian Sea whose deputy ministers met here to determine the legal status of the world's largest lake.

Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Vaezi, in a recent interview with IRAN NEWS disclosed that the five countries on the border of the Caspian are to form an organization for bilateral cooperation.

"Pretty soon foreign ministers of the five countries will meet in Ashkhabad and finalize plans for broader cooperation of the littoral states of the Caspian," an informed source told IRAN NEWS.

Besides Iran and Kazakhstan, Russia, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan are also situated around Caspian Sea.

Nateq-Nouri will go to Almaty

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Fighting Forces Afghan Civilians to Flee to Kabul

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN (AFP) - Afghan civilians fled to Kabul yesterday from fighting on the front lines north of the city, while the Taliban Islamic militia prevented others from leaving the capital, witnesses said.

"There is danger on this road due to fighting, therefore we don't let the people go out," said Taliban soldiers at a checkpoint.

A large crowd of pedestrians milled about around the checkpoint in the Khair Khana suburbs north of Kabul, many frustrated by the refusal of permission to pass to their home villages.

On the other side of the makeshift barrier, littered with the remains of broken cassette tapes of forbidden music, there was a lineup of 20-odd trucks packed with civilians and their household

belongings waiting to enter Kabul.

"When we have searched the trucks, they will be allowed to go on to Kabul," the Taliban said.

Scores of civilians walked down the hill from the checkpoint at Khair Khana Pass, many carrying chickens or driving goats and cattle before them.

"We have come to the city to escape the fighting," said a family group headed by a man carrying his two-year-old son.

He said his family was from the district of Sheka Dara which is located near the front lines 20 kilometers (13 miles) north of Kabul, where the Taliban have been battling the forces of the ex-Kabul government for the past two weeks.

Locals fleeing the fighting area

described heavy shelling but said they were not aware of infantry attacks.

There was no indication that the front lines, which are at the village of Hossain Kot not far from Sheka Dara, had moved due to the fighting over the past few days.

It was reported that the Taliban maintained control on the Darayi Nur district in Nangarhar Province after defeating militiamen belonging to the previous "corrupt" regime, Taliban sources said.

A commander loyal to the ousted Afghan government reportedly launched a bid four days ago to capture the district, which lies north of Nangarhar's capital Jalalabad.

The commander, identified as Hazzarat Ali, entered the area with

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KDP Objects to Key Points of Ankara Accord

DUBAI, U.A.E. (AFP) - The Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) yesterday raised objections to key points of the U.S.-brokered agreement with a rival Kurdish faction but said it would respect a cease-fire in Northern Iraq.

The KDP of Massoud Barzani said the final communiqué released following two days of peace talks in Ankara with the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) was issued before it had been reviewed by the KDP leadership.

"The political bureau was due to forward its observations prior to publication of the communiqué," the KDP said in a statement. "The participants did not wait for our response and notes and issued the communiqué."

The KDP said it would however respect five of the 22 points in the agreement drawn up at talks Wednesday and Thursday that were also attended by British and Turkish diplomats as well as rep-

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ISRAELI RADIO: Hebron Agreement to Be Signed in Cairo

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israel and the Palestinian Authority are close to finalizing an agreement on an Israeli troop withdrawal from Hebron and it will be signed during the November 12-14 Economic Conference in Cairo, Israeli Radio said yesterday.

The radio, citing U.S. diplomatic sources, said U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was expected to attend the signing ceremony.

Israel was scheduled to pull out of 80 percent of Hebron in March, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has been demanding greater security guarantees for the 400 Jewish settlers living in the West Bank city.

Lebanon Uncovers Mossad "Terrorist" Network

BEIRUT, LEBANON - The Lebanese authorities have uncovered a "terrorist" network allegedly recruited by the Israeli secret service Mossad to carry out assassinations and bombing attempts in Lebanon, a Beirut daily said yesterday.

A Lebanese-Armenian in his thirties, who was not identified, See Page 13

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EDITORIAL

Iran's Improved Economy

From the very first day of the culmination of the Islamic Revolution, the United States tried its best to undo what had been done by the oppressed nation of Iran.

U.S. attitude and its many designs to damage the Islamic Republic did not surprise many people, least of all the father of the nation, Imam Khomeini, who once warned the nation that "We are on the wrong path if the oppressive power, the U.S., stops plotting against us."

The fact is that the U.S. along with certain other Western powers exploited Iran's resources for many decades during the subservient rule of the Shah.

The 1979 Revolution eradicated the influence of oppressive powers in Iran. So the anti-Iran reaction by the United States was quite natural.

But the wise leadership of the late Imam, and now Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, showed the right path to the nation and this is the reason that all plots of the oppressive powers proved to be futile and useless.

The pro-Zionist media painted such a distorted picture of Iran that it could be difficult for some to believe that despite U.S. sanctions Iran's economy has stabilized and looks set to grow by up to four percent next year.

The above comment was not made by an Iranian official or by an Iranian editorialist, but by the man in charge of World Bank's Iran Department, Daniel Ritchie, who on Friday painted a rosy picture of the future of the Iranian economy. Ritchie said the Iranians have achieved a certain degree of macroeconomic stability.

The same report by Reuters from Washington quoting experts said, "The Iranians are feeling much more relaxed about the economic situation having tackled their debt and foreign exchange crisis. They believe they can bypass sanctions."

Such a remark by a recognized economic expert proves the failure of the U.S. which imposed a trade and investment ban on Iran in 1995 on baseless and whimsical allegations.

Congress followed up in August with a law designed to punish non-U.S. firms investing \$40 million or more in a year in Iran's energy sector.

Washington did not receive any support for its hostile action against Iran and its closest allies resisted and opposed its unilateral, extraterritorial, illogical policy.

As a result, the so-called sanctions failed and Iran is now enjoying the all-out support of Eastern and Western countries, and its economic condition is improving daily and the day is not far when Tehran will become a real regional economic powerhouse.



PHOTO BY HATAMI

Hazrat Fatima's Birthday Celebrated in Leader's Presence

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - A special ceremony was held in the presence of the Islamic Revolution's Leader Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei here yesterday on the occasion of the birth anniversaries of Hazrat Fatima (S.A.), daughter of Prophet Mohammad (S) and of Founder of

the Islamic Republic the late Imam Khomeini.

A group of poets recited poems eulogizing the Lady of Islam, Hazrat Fatima, also the wife of Imam Ali (A.S.), the first Imam of the infallible Household of the Prophet of Islam.

Speeches were also made on the life and lofty personality of the prophet's daughter.

The audience also reaffirmed their allegiance to the Leader of the Islamic Revolution and to the causes of the Islamic Republic. IRNA reported

Over 10,500 Iraqi Refugees Return Home

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - An Interior Ministry official said yesterday that more than 10,500 refugees out of 85,500 Iraqi Kurdish people, who have taken refuge in Iran, have returned to their home country so far.

Ahmad Hussein, director general of the Foreign Nationals and Expatriates Department of the Interior Ministry added that Iran has provided all facilities including foodstuffs and other necessities for the refugees who volunteered to return home.

He said that in case the crisis continues in Northern Iraq, the transfer of refugees from the buffer zone on border regions to camps will be possible if only necessary facilities and credits are provided by international organizations.

So far 70 billion rials has been disbursed for construction of camps, erection of tents, distribution of blankets, foodstuffs, garments and construction of medical centers. He said that the United Nations only financed 15 billion rials of the total.

Hussein said that presently \$14 million is needed to construct shelters for the Iraqi Kurdish refugees currently residing in Iran.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in a recent meeting in Geneva has allocated \$14.214 million for protection of refugees residing in Iran and \$16.403 million for their return to their home countries.



On the occasion of the birthday of Hazrat Fatima Al-Zahra (A.S.) yesterday, Imam Khomeini's Relief Committee arranged for the marriage of 8,000 couples throughout Iran. Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri attended the marriage ceremonies of 500 couples held at Eram Park on the outskirts of Tehran.

Speaker Congratulates Women on Birth Anniversary of Hazrat Fatima

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - Majlis Speaker Hojjatolislam Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri yesterday felicitated Iranian women on the birth anniversary of Hazrat Fatima (S.A.), the daughter of Prophet Mohammad (S). The day also coincides with the birth anniversary of the late Imam Khomeini.

He said the fact that the noble Islam of Prophet Mohammad (S) is still alive is due to the blessings of martyrdom of Imam Hussein (A.S.), the son of Hazrat Fatima (S.A.) and Third Imam of the infallible Household of

Prophet Mohammad (S), according to IRNA.

Speaking to female staffers of the Construction Jihad Ministry, Nateq-Nouri elaborated on the Kowsar verse revealed to the Prophet and the blessings of the birth of Hazrat Fatima (S.A.) in the course of history.

Referring to the active presence of women on social scene, Nateq-Nouri said women in Iran have gained their right prestige that is much more important than their position during the pre-Revolution era.

He said, "Today Iranian

women have made great progress in all scientific areas and assumed high ranks in medicine, technology and engineering."

Rejecting the propaganda of the enemies of Islam on violation of women's rights in Iran, he said in the West women are being humiliated and regarded as consumer goods, but the Westerners deny violating human rights there.

He said through passing necessary legislation by the Majlis, women would vindicate their due rights, adding that women MPs in the Majlis are well-educated, well-informed and efficient.

Statement on Caspian Legal Regime Requires Revision

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - Kazakhstan's Foreign Minister Kasym Tokayev called for revising the statement issued by the deputy foreign ministers of the five Caspian Sea littoral states.

He also referred to the possible need to hold another meeting of the deputies ahead of the ministerial meeting.

The first meeting was held in Tehran to determine the Caspian Sea legal regime.

According to an IRNA report from Almaty, he said the proposed statement reflects the different stances of Russia and the Repub-

lics of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan vis-a-vis the Caspian Sea legal regime.

Stressing that Almaty and Baku hold almost similar stances, he said, "I believe new avenues should be explored to solve this issue."

The Kazakh official called for a step-by-step approach to settle all differences related to the Caspian Sea legal regime.

Primarily, a document incorporating all common views should be prepared and issues causing differences should be set aside for some other time to be resolved by way of negotiations.

Deputy foreign minister of Kazakhstan, who attended the Tehran meeting, on Friday addressed foreign reporters and diplomats in Almaty and stressed his country's stances vis-a-vis the Caspian Sea.

He added, "Almaty is ready to allow the Caspian Sea littoral states to exploit resources available on Kazakhstan's side of the Caspian."

In a related development, the Kazakh foreign minister lauded Iran's recent measure to invite the warring sides in Afghanistan to meet in Tehran and termed it "a logical measure".

"If Afghan groups were invited

to take part in a meeting of representatives of different countries and international organizations in Tehran, their country's crisis would have been escalated," he emphasized.

The foreign minister, who was speaking to Panorama magazine published in Almaty, called the Tehran meeting on Afghanistan "very impartial".

He remarked that the Tehran meeting underscored the importance of solving the Afghan crisis through negotiations, reconciliation of the Afghan groups, and establishment of a national and all-inclusive government.

Iranian Mutual

Libyan Velayat

Handwritten text in Persian script, likely a signature or note.

IRAN
DOMESTIC NEWS

Iranian, Sudanese FM's Discuss Mutual Ties, Regional Issues



Photo by Moradi

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati conferred with his Sudanese counterpart Ali Othman Muhammad Taha, on bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues, here yesterday.

Africa, Afghanistan and other troubled points of the world. Referring to the recent meeting in New York of the foreign ministers of Iran, Sudan, Uganda and Malawi, the Sudanese Minister praised the mediation efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran between Sudan and Uganda.

Taha underlined that upon the agreements signed between Khartoum and Kampala, Sudan is determined to implement the provisions of the agreements, establish security and continue friendly relations with Uganda. Pointing to the joint Iran-Sudan economic commission Sudanese foreign minister requested for expansion of Iran's cooperation

with his country in electricity, road construction, agriculture and oil fields.

Dr. Velayati in reply expressed satisfaction over the recent visit paid by the Iranian President to Khartoum, describing it as fruitful and valuable.

Velayati expressed hope that Iran's mediation would bring stability and tranquility to West Africa and stressed that Iran will do its best to settle the existing problem between Sudan and Uganda in an honorable and fair way.

Velayati voiced Iran's readiness to boost Iran-Sudanese economic cooperation and to transfer its scientific and technical experiences to Sudan, IRNA reported.

Meanwhile, an AFP report from Kampala said that the Ugandan Foreign Minister Eriya Kategaya was due to leave here yesterday for Tehran to sign a peace accord with Sudan brokered by Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

The peace deal, to be signed tomorrow, is aimed at mending relations between Kampala and Khartoum that were severed last year amid mutual accusations that they were supporting each other's rebels.

Libyan Minister Meets Velayati, Besharati



Besharati (L) met Asseikh



Velayati (L) shakes hands with Asseikh

(photos by Moradi)

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK
TEHRAN - Libyan Minister of Housing and Public Services, Embarak Asseikh visited Iran's Foreign Minister, Ali Akbar Velayati here yesterday.

The two sides discussed expansion of bilateral relations and expressed pleasure over the growing

trend of mutual cooperation on the basis of common religion, history and culture.

Welcoming the Libyan minister's visit to Iran, Velayati said that serious attention should be paid to bilateral cooperation including housing and urban development.

Asseikh also exchanged views with Iran's interior minister, Ali Mohammad Besharati, about mutual experience in urban development.

Pointing to the good relations between the two countries, Besharati emphasized expansion of bilateral cooperation.

Promotion of Tehran-Tbilisi Scientific Cooperation Called

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - First Vice President Hassan Habibi in Tbilisi yesterday called on Iranian and Georgian universities to identify the two countries' scientific and technical potentials to help further promote bilateral relations.

He was addressing a group of students and faculty of Tbilisi University. Habibi said that exchange of students and university professors between the two countries would lead to broadening of Tehran-Tbilisi ties.

He stressed that scientific and technical cooperation and holding artistic and literary meetings will also help revive the ancient ties between regional nations.

Habibi in Batumi

Habibi who is on an official visit to Georgia, arrived at Batumi, the capital of the autonomous Republic of Abkhaz, yesterday.

The 3,000 square kilometer city with a population of 380,000, many of them Muslims, is located in western part of Georgia and has a special position in the republic's economy, for being a port on the Black Sea.

There has been attempts by Georgia to construct a massive transit route between the Caspian and the Black Sea to boost its economy.

Traffic Sign Board System to Go on Stream Soon

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - A traffic sign board system will be launched at main squares around Tehran pointing to the shortest route to destination, said Raoofi, managing director of Iran Traffic Co.

Raoofi who was addressing the Second Traffic Engineering Conference which closed on Thursday

added that this system is designed in a manner that leads drivers to the shortest route to their destination.

He said the system is designed to save the driver's time and energy.

Raoofi said the sign boards will be tested at Imam Hussein, Enqelab, Azadi, Tajrish and Rahahan squares this month.

Boroujerdi-Mahboobani Meet

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - Incoming Singaporean Deputy Foreign Minister Kishour Mahboobani who is here at the head of a high ranking political delegation conferred with Alaeddin Boroujerdi, deputy foreign minister for Asia and Oceania, and discussed matters of mutual interest.

Upon arrival in Tehran for a 3-day sojourn, Mahboobani said Singapore was willing to broaden relations with Tehran and expressed hope that their discussion with Iranian officials would improve that end.

Second Int'l Seminar on Hygienic-Cosmetics Industries Held



MOVASAGHI

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - The Second International Seminar on Hygienic and Cosmetics Industries commenced work here yesterday.

The first seminar was held last year which dealt with subjects such as shampoo and cream where 900 professors, researchers and managers from hygienic and cosmetics industries participated.

In the second seminar 30 papers from hygienic cosmetics researchers and producers have been selected for discussion.

Ministries of Industries and

LET'S MEMORIZE THE QURAN

SURA 60, THE EXAMINER (AL-MUMTAHINA)
In the Name of God,
The Beneficent, the Merciful

Also, do not hold on to marriage ties:
With unbelieving wives:
Demand the dowries to them given.
And let the unbelieving men
Demand what they have given:

*The 26th part of the Holy Quran is obtainable in exquisite book-form from RAHAT Publication Tel. 882 4844-3 (F.N.)

PRAYER TIMES	
Noon (Zohr)	11:48
Evening (Maghreb)	17:27
Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	04:55
Tomorrow's Sunrise	06:29

TÊTE-A-TÊTE

Burning American Cigarettes!

'Master, I have a piece of news specially tailored to your taste. I am sure.'

'Don't you ever be too sure, young man!'

'It's a question of American cigarettes, sir. An official of the Iranian State Tobacco Company says: We plan to set fire to 10,000 dangerous. American cigarettes in symbolic defiance of the United States on the anniversary of the 1980 seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran... these cigarettes do not conform to our standards and are more dangerous than other cigarettes...they were smuggled into the country by boat, and as a result 10,000 of them got wet, but the rest are usable, therefore they would be sold by our own company's markings, but these wet, unusable, more dangerous ones would be set on fire in a ceremony marking the Day of Fight Against Great Oppressors.'

'I must admit: Never in the history of the oppressed nations' anti-imperialist struggles throughout the globe has such a rushing, symbolic blow been ever stricken against the smoking might of World Arrogance!'

'I knew you'd appreciate the news! Got a match, sir?'

ABU SINA

Health, Department General of Hygienic and Cosmetics Supervision, the Environment Protection Agency as well as Al-Zahra, Tabatabaie and Teachers' Training universities, Shafeed Beheshi Pharmaceutical University, the chemical college of Azad University and Isfahan Pharmaceutical College are attending the seminar.

The organizers of the seminar hope that by holding such seminars relations between the industry and university will improve and that the industry will profit from university research for enhancement of their hygienic/cosmetics products.

One observer said Iran is producing more than enough soap, shampoo, powder, toothpaste, detergents and washing liquids to meet domestic need and these items could be conveniently exported due to superior quality.

250 manufacturers of hygienic and cosmetic products have participated in this seminar among which Iran Avandfar, Iranakaf, Behdash, Pars Khorramshahr, Paksan, Pakshoo, Paknam, Pakvash, Javid, Darugar, Rose

Polymer, Royan Behdash, Saviz, Sadra Shimi, Taravat, Atragin, Maspian, Arin Sane, Mahna Kimia, Alborz Paraffin and Pars Minoo are notable.

Beside the above, 8 leading hygienic and cosmetic manufacturers from Germany, France, Italy and Malaysia are attending the seminar which will wind up on November 4.

The companies are

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Conference on Rival Foreign Interests in the Persian Gulf



Photo by Moradi

es Women on Hazrat Fatima

gal Regime on

WASHINGTON, U.S.A. (Reuters) - Despite U.S. sanctions Iran's economy has stabilized and looks set to grow by up to four percent next year, economists forecast.

"They've circled the wagons," said Daniel Ritchie, head of the World Bank's Iran Department.

"They have achieved a certain degree of macroeconomic stability," he told Reuters.

Senior economists and political analysts who did not want to be identified, agreed.

"The Iranians are feeling much more relaxed about the economic situation having tackled their debt and foreign exchange crisis," one economist said. "They believe they can bypass sanctions. Unilateral sanctions are rarely effective, and even then, only at the margins."

Washington imposed a trade and investment ban on Iran in 1995 accusing it of sponsoring terrorism and seeking nuclear weapons, charges denied by Tehran. Congress followed up in August with a law punishing non-U.S. firms investing \$40 million or more in a year in Iran's energy sector.

This has irked some Europeans and East Asians who favor a "critical dialogue" with the Islamic Republic, which they view as a potential regional economic superpower.

The latest legislation, which re-

Iran's Economy Growing Despite U.S. Sanctions

quires Washington to pick two out of six sanctions against offending foreign firms, is still far from being implemented, officials say.

But U.S. officials rule out any softening of U.S. policy under a second term Clinton administration, saying they see no sign that Tehran is willing to change its stance on political violence and nuclear weapons or temper its hostility to the Arab-Israeli peace process.

Few foreign governments are prepared to anger Washington by openly flouting sanctions but foreign investors are keen to register their interest even if they do not commit funds at this stage, economists say.

Some draw an analogy with Vietnam in the 1980s when U.S. firms were barred from dealing with the Communist state but Asian and European firms moved in, recognizing its economic potential.

Iran's potential is still years away from being realized. It has lost one third of its economy since the 1979 Revolution.

But it straddles the great trade

routes of Central Asia, sits on the world's second largest natural gas reserves and exports about 2.5 million barrels of oil per day.

"They are not there yet," said a senior economist. "But they dug themselves out of a balance of payments hole in 1994. What they need now is an exit policy from deflation."

Economists predict that gross domestic product (GDP), the measure of the economy's output of goods and services, will grow between 3.5 and 4.0 percent in 1997, the same as this year's forecast growth.

Inflation, which soared above 60 percent in 1995 has come down to about 25 percent now, and should stabilize they said.

"Twenty percent inflation by next March is feasible," one economist said.

Higher oil prices have boosted foreign exchange reserves to about \$8.5 billion, reassuring creditors Iran can meet payments on its recently restructured debt. Foreign debt is expected to drop to \$14 billion next year from about \$18 billion this year, economists be-

lieve.

Oil exports are forecast to rise \$1.5 billion next year to \$15 billion but the current account surplus will narrow to \$3 billion from \$4.5 billion this year, the economists said.

Foreign investment applications in the non-energy sector in the past year were between \$2.5 billion and \$3 billion, they said.

Despite the improvement since the drastic deflation of the early 1990s which squeezed middle class Iranians, the economy is not growing fast enough to significantly outpace the population growth.

Economists believe Iran needs seven percent growth to make real headway.

Meeting such a target depends as much on politics as economics. Western-influenced planners want to push through painful structural reforms, such as deregulation and privatization of more than 40 percent of the economy in state hands.

The dual exchange rate needs to be reunified, the budget deficit narrowed from its current 1.6 percent of GDP, and domestic petrol prices raised from their present 8 to 10 cents a U.S. gallon, economists say.

"A real danger is insufficient

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Dalan Refinery to Raise Nation's Gas Volume

TEHRAN - With the commissioning of Dalan Refinery within the next two months the total output of gas in the country will hit 160 million cu. m per day, said Mohammadnejad, deputy oil minister and managing director of Iran National Gas Company (INGC) here yesterday.

Mohammadnejad who was addressing the press said during the first phase of its operation the refinery will produce 17m cu. m inert (sweet) gas per day.

"268 towns in the country are presently receiving piped gas which will be increased to 350 towns by the end of the Second Plan (1999)," said the managing director of INGC adding that the nation's need for gas during the first 9 months of this year amounts to 110 to 120 million cu. per day.

He said the country's macroeconomic plan calls for meeting the domestic needs and exporting the surplus and that the Pars Jonoobi Gas Field will be a major exporter once operational with a total output of 75 million cu. m per day.

"The first phase of this gas field which will go on stream in 1999

will produce 25m cu. m gas per day and after four years the second and third will be exploited," Mohammadnejad said.

He said priority for export will be given to neighboring countries such as Turkey, Pakistan, Nakhichevan and then India.

With the commencement of export of gas to Turkey from September 1999, the nation will have an annual income of \$1 million which will be increased.

He said at the end of the First Plan 29 billion cu. m natural gas was produced which will jump to 51.5 billion cu. m by the end of the Second Plan.

"After the victory of the Islamic Revolution and until the commencement of the Second Plan (1995), everyday we have had an average of 364 new subscribers and presently 5 million families are being supplied with piped gas throughout the country," said the head of INGC.

According to Mohammadnejad with an estimated recognized gas reserves of 20 trillion cu. m, Iran is the second largest gas producer in the world and first among OPEC members.

KAVIANI'S CRAFT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

Textile industry in its different branches such as fabrics weaving for protection of the body from cold and heat up to the carpet weaving is considered a native and traditional industry in our country. However thanks to advanced technology, this industry has taken leave of its traditional shape and modern machinery has replaced handmade traditional looms.

In order to get further acquainted with the manufacturing of such textile machinery, we had an interview with engineer Karim Kaviani, the managing director of Kaviani Textile Machine Manufacturing Factory (K.T.M.M.C.), which has approximately 50 years experience in the field of fabrication of spinning and weaving looms. Besides Mr. Kaviani is a member of the Textile Industrial Association.

During the interview Kaviani insisted that their machines should speak for themselves and not publicly.

Q. As the first founder of textile machines manufacturing company in Iran, please give us an account of the history of establishment of your factory and your nature of operation?

A. Kaviani Textile Machine Manufacturing Factory (K.T.M.M.C.) was established in the year 1951 by Abdolrahim Kaviani. The products of this factory can be divided into two periods:

The first period began in 1951 and continued until 1978. During that period the factory was fabricating four shuttle plaid weaving looms with a maximum reel of between 120 to 160 cm. During this period approximately 1,000 weaving looms were produced and delivered to the market which are being used in the majority of weaving factories in Yazd and Isfahan. Besides the above looms, warpers, bobbin winders and rolling-on M/C, which are used in weaving industry, were also produced by K.T.M.M.C. at that time. However, in order to expand the factory's technology and acquire new skills, the spinning and weaving production lines were commissioned simultaneously in 1966 and

Kaviani Textile Machine Manufacturing Factory, First Manufacturer of Spinning and Weaving Looms in Iran

the products were sold to the domestic market. In 1978 we had so advanced in our technology that we thought it better to replace our production lines with woolen spinning systems and have since manufactured a complete series of woolen spinning looms. So far we have fabricated 40 series of woolen spinning looms of which 9 series are employed in factories in Tehran and the remaining looms are installed in Isfahan, Tabriz, Mashhad and other cities.

Q. What you mean by a complete series of spinning looms?
A. Complete series of spinning looms include:
1. Blending and opener, 60 cm width.
2. Double head carding machine, 150, 200 and 220 cm width.
3. Ring twisters, 120 to 288 spindles.

Q. How does your quality and pricing compare with foreign rivals?
A. Due to all the limitations in the fabrication of machinery in the country, we must assess our domestic looms within that perspective. As a result, our looms which are used in the country may be superior in quality with their foreign rivals. Thus, like any other manufacturer we are assessing the



Semi-worsted carding loom, 2 - 2.2 m width.

4. Two-rotor twister, 60 to 120 spindles.
5. Bobbin winders for large and small size bobbins with conic heads, 4 to 24 spindles.
6. Hank winding M/C.
7. Bundle pressing M/C.
8. Centrifuge.
9. Emery fillet M/C for flexible fillets of the carding looms.

Q. Considering the fact that you are the most experienced producer

value of our products based upon the amount of demand. The increased demand of our customers is one reason for the high quality of our products. Right now our woolen spinning systems are being used in Isfahan, Shahrzad, Mashhad and our semi-worsted carding looms are employed in Mashhad, Shadiloon Thread and Polaris companies in Hamedan and several other factories.

concerning pricing I must emphasize that the price of foreign models are five folds compared to our looms.

Q. What is your annual nominal capacity?

A. Our factory has been designed for mass production of

carding machines. However should the government extend further support to the textile industry, we hope to expand our factory.

Q. What plans you have in mind for expansion of Kaviani Textile Machine Manufacturing Co.?



Bobbin winder manufactured by K.T.M.M.C.

looms, and we possess all the facilities for such a wide operation. At times the volume of our customers' demands i.e. the textile factories, determines the extent of our production. In fact the capacity of a textile factory depends upon the number of fabricated looms. Presently we are capable of producing 10 complete series of woolen spinning looms and 20 complete sets of

A. One of our main targets in machine manufacturing industry is to transfer the latest technology in the field to the country. For this purpose, we are continuously studying new and more completed textile looms. After completion of our carding machine line, we intend to launch gill box production line. These lines along with the towing ring line for the semi-wor-

sted carding system will be commissioned in the near future. In the meantime we have made extensive studies to fabricate floor covering machines as well.

Q. What is the number of your personnel and extent of their expertise?

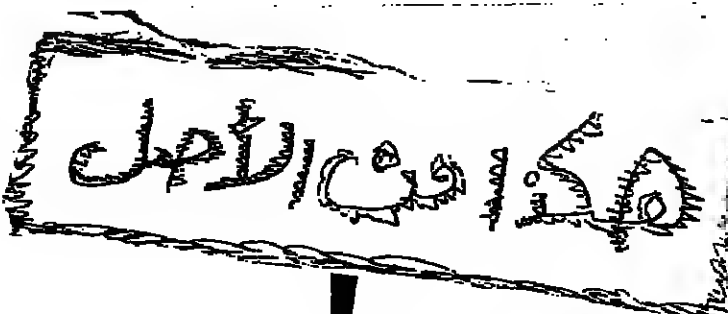
A. K.T.M.M.C. is employing 33 employees who have an average of 15 years experience in industrial and production lines. The basis of our operation is to teach technical skill and know-how by accumulating experience and we are endeavoring to give our technicians complete and correct training in their fields of operation. Since our staff are the real executors of our plans, what success we have achieved so far we owe to their efficiency and dedication.

Q. How do you communicate with the university?

A. We have always welcomed university students in textile factories to undergo their on the job training and by doing that we are doing our least service to the universities in our country. By exchanging theoretical information of students with the practical experience of the factory both benefit from the transaction. Up to now a considerable number of students such as those from Amirkabir University have undergone their OJT courses in our factory. Besides, these we have installed a pilot carding system and a carding machine in Amirkabir University for the use of students there and hope we can communicate with other universities in the future.

I again emphasize that our policy is to let our machines speak for themselves and we consider our customers as our mouthpiece.

Kaviani Textile Machine Manufacturing Co.,
Ave. 27,
Old Karaj Road, past
Pasteurized Milk
Factory
Telephone: 6691718
Fax: 6698501



Inquiry to Raise Gas Volume

Iranian officials are looking for ways to increase the volume of gas being produced in the country. The Ministry of Petroleum has announced that it is conducting an inquiry into the gas production process. The inquiry is aimed at identifying the reasons for the low gas production and finding ways to increase it. The Ministry has also announced that it is planning to build new gas fields and increase the capacity of existing ones. The inquiry is expected to take several months to complete.

lic Church) every two weeks, but he also sneaked out to see secular films - "risking damnation in the process," he once joked.

His family was "very painful" (his two sisters and grandfather as well as his mother were all artists), and he has described their household as intellectual, strict, religious and enlightened.

He began his career as a novelist, and in 1974 he founded the Irish Writers Cooperative. His collection of short stories, "Night in Tunisia," won the 1979 Guardian Fiction Prize. He's published several other works, including "Sunrise with Sea Monster" last year.

Jordan, who first wrote a script for this film in 1983, says he probably needed to make a few movies before this one, since this was so large in scale. "Maybe I wouldn't have been equipped to make this," says Jordan, whose other movies include "Mona Lisa," "The Company of Wolves" and "We're No Angels."

"You need a certain kind of security and authority to let a story tell itself. And in many ways, I didn't want to interfere with this story. I didn't want to put my hands all over it," he says. "Some of the movies that I admire most, some of the John Ford movies, some of the Kurosawa movies, they're haven't got personalities bleeding all over them."

reform," one planner said. But few analysts expect any significant economic initiatives until after the presidential election in mid-1997.

This could pit economic liberals wedded to President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's market reforms against conservatives advocating slower changes.

Rafsanjani is barred by the Constitution from seeking a third consecutive term but neither reformers nor conservatives have announced their candidacies.

"Investors will be watching closely," said one analyst familiar with Iran. "If the reformers win they will have to avoid the temptation to make up for lost time with an expansionary budget," the analyst said.

"If the conservatives win they will be prevailed upon by the bazaar to keep open markets but the pace of liberalization could be so slow as to choke significant recovery."

PRESIDENT

Katsanjani said the grounds have been paved for the active and massive involvement of women in social activities and urged women to find their real position in the field of education.

The president awarded three women with medals of merit in appreciation for their dedication and endless efforts in social activities.

CONFERENCE

his men on the pretext of a surrender, but engaged in fighting, Taliban-controlled Radio Shariat said, adding that Ali's forces were "defeated and driven away."

But Afghan travelers reaching Kabul from Jalalabad said fighting had not ended in the eastern district, contrary to Taliban claims.

Ali was one of the pro-Kabul commanders who tried to resist the Taliban capture of Jalalabad in early September when it fell to the Taliban almost without a fight.

The neighboring provinces of Kunar and Laghman, which also fell to the Taliban before they marched on to seize Kabul on September 27, are believed to still provide sanctuary for some remnant forces of the government.

On the second of the two north-bound highways which exit Kabul, the so-called new road, there was relative calm yesterday although several barrages of incoming long-range rockets were observed.

These rockets exploded harmlessly in the desert well away from the batteries of multi-barrel rocket launchers and Howitzers that the Taliban have deployed on the new road.

The rockets were fired by the ex-Kabul government forces of ousted President Burhanuddin Rabbani under the command of Ahmad Shah Masood.

The forces of Masood and his ally, northern warlord Abdul Rashid Dostam, are based near the new road at Bagram air base, 50 kilometers (31 miles) north of Kabul, from where several unsuccessful attempts have been made to advance against the Taliban.

Taliban claimed their front line was only one and a half kilometers from Bagram air base, but independent verification of these claims was not possible.

Dostam, speaking to a journalist from Iran's Jomhuri-Eslami newspaper, has called for a "moderate Islamic regime" in Kabul and said the anti-Taliban alliance "accepts no plan before the total withdrawal" of the fundamentalist militia from the capital.

Dostam also criticized Pakistan's support for the Taliban, saying Islamabad was acting as "representatives" of the militia.

"We believe Pakistan is trying to keep the Taliban in Kabul and its because of this that we insist on their withdrawal," he said, adding that fighting "will continue against the Taliban until their departure."

Dostam reiterated his charges that Pakistani tanks and aircraft were supporting Taliban in combat near Kabul, Kandahar in southwestern Afghanistan and Jalalabad, 50 kilometers (90 miles) from Kabul.

SECOND

Schwarzkopf, Henkel and Dragaco (Germany), Christian Dior (France), Polynet and Dak (Italy), and Pupa and Razik (Malaysia).

The seminar is sponsored by the Hygienic and Cosmetics Magazine. The licence-holder and editor-in-chief of the magazine is Mr. Mahmoud Reza Movasaghi.

CONFERENCE

and the Persian Gulf. It is led by former American assistant secretary of state, Richard Murphy, professor Michael Sturmer from Germany's Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik and former French Ambassador Eric Rouleau.

Japan's Ambassador to Egypt Kunio Katokura and professor Alexei Vassiliev of the Russian Academy of Science are also due to present national perspectives together with key players and commentators in the energy, defense and financial sectors.

Some of the issues due to be addressed include the motives behind the U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf and its differences with its

allies. The nature of Washington's regional defense posture, the costs and advantages for U.S. business interests and the constraints and opportunities for rivals are also being explored, IRNA reported from London.

NAHQ NURI

on Nov. 20 and will stay there for two days before flying to Ashkhabad, capital of Turkmenistan, another friendly neighboring country of Iran.

Like Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan also has very good neighborly relations with the Islamic Republic and Dushanbe shares identical views on the status of the Caspian Sea with Tehran.

Turkmenistan's Vice-President and Foreign Minister Boris Sheikh Muradov was here last week to attend the Tehran-sponsored Regional Conference on Afghanistan.

Nateq-Nouri's visit to Ashkhabad will pave the way for closer and more diversified ties between Iran and Turkmenistan, observers believe.

He will stay there for three days before going to New Delhi Nov. 25.

In India he will be received by Lok Sabha, the Lower House of Parliament, Speaker P.A. Sangma. The two politicians have met before.

Sangma visited Iran when he was labor minister in the cabinet of former prime minister P.V. Narasimha Rao in April 1993. During his April 21-22 visit to Iran Sangma visited Nateq-Nouri.

On November 17, Indian Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral is arriving here to co-chair the much delayed meeting of the joint commission with Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

Informed sources told IRAN NEWS that Iranian and Indian officials these days are busy finalizing the technicalities of the joint commission meeting.

This will be the first time that Nateq-Nouri will meet with Indian Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda. During his four-day visit, Nateq-Nouri will also go to Hyderabad, a historical city and the capital of Andhra Pradesh.

During the last few years the United States has been trying to push Iran into isolation. "But we see heavy traffic of officials to and from Tehran," one observer commented.

Talking to IRAN NEWS, he said, "President Rafsanjani's very successful and historical six-nation African tour greatly enhanced the Islamic Republic's international prestige."

Rafsanjani went to Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and South Africa in September.

Nateq-Nouri's three-nation tour once more will prove that Iran is a major regional power, the analyst concluded.

KDP

representatives of north Iraq's Turkoman minority.

"Deciding on other issues shall wait for the return of our delegation and the result of discussion of the issues in the parliament, the regional government, the allied parties and our party committees," the KDP said.

It listed the five points it agreed upon as the following: - Commitment to the cease-fire and the continuation of talks.

- Ensuring that essential services such as water, electricity,

fuel, medical supplies and food "shall not be disrupted for political reasons."

- Exchange of captives, the release of detainees and the return of remains of those killed in the fighting.

- To cease media attacks against each other.

- A demarcation line based on positions as of midnight on October 23, 1996.

The participants in the peace talks are scheduled to meet again in Ankara on November 15 for a second round of negotiations.

The KDP has yet to agree on several key points, notably the sharing of an estimated \$50 million in annual revenues from border trade. The issue has been at the heart of the conflict with the PUK over the last two years.

The statement from Barzani's faction also voiced reservations over what U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau said was an agreement in Ankara to keep out external forces.

HELETON

was arrested in a police raid on his home in Beirut's eastern suburb of Burj Hammoud. An-Nahar said.

The newspaper said documents seized at his residence revealed his connection with the Mossad and meetings with Israeli secret service agents in the occupied border zone of Southern Lebanon.

It said the man had recruited four "collaborators" who accompanied him to meetings with Mossad officers in the border zone, with the aim of setting up a "network to carry out explosions and assassinations against Muslim movements."

The four men are believed to have fled to the Israeli-controlled border enclave or to Israel, An-Nahar said.

The newspaper said the man was accused of "collaborating with the Israeli enemy to carry out terrorist activities through explosions and assassinations and revealing information about the resistance."

If convicted, he could face the death penalty.

Israelis Kill Infiltrator from Jordan

JERUSALEM - Israeli troops shot and killed a man who infiltrated Israel from Jordan yesterday, the Israeli army said.

Drastic Slowdown of Palestinian Economy

GAZA CITY - The Palestinian economy has suffered a drastic slowdown during the past four years with gross domestic product falling 23 percent during the period, according to a U.N. study released yesterday.

Per capita income fell by 39 percent between 1992 and September 1996 and unemployment rose from 10 percent of the active population to 30 percent, according to the U.N. special coordinator for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The number of people seeking work, meanwhile, increased by 8.5 percent this year, in large part because of the pressure on women and children to find a job, the report said.

Net income has fallen by 20 percent since early 1995, the coordinator's office said.

It said household consumption fell by 10 percent since the end of

WEATHER

Tehran Temperature			
Maximum		20°C	
Minimum		11°C	
Partly cloudy with wind			
Temperature extremes till noon today			
High: Minab		35°C	
Low: Hamadan		-04°C	
Temperature in some major cities of the world on Nov. 2, 1996			
Madrid	20°C	Kuwait	28°C
Riyadh	22°C	London	17°C
Rome	18°C	Frankfurt	14°C
Abu Dhabi	29°C	Delhi	29°C

Air Quality Control Company a subsidiary of Municipality of Tehran, which monitors the air quality in Tehran, announced: Saturday ambient air quality expressed in terms of "Pollution Standard Index" (PSI) was categorized as hazardous (due to a high concentration of carbon monoxide).

last year because of the increase in the number of unemployed and the drop in income.

The report said that since the first regional economic conference on the Middle East in October 1993, donor countries have given more than one billion dollars to the Palestinian Authority for development projects.

It stressed the negative impact of Israel's frequent closures of the Palestinian territories.

Arafat Phones Rabin's Widow

GAZA CITY - Palestinian Leader Yasser Arafat phoned the widow of Israel's slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to pay tribute yesterday to "this hero of the peace of the brave" on the first anniversary of his assassination.

Iran Condemns U.S. Interference in Bosnia

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK TEHRAN - Iran yesterday condemned the United States' demands for Bosnia to sack its deputy defense minister due to his having links with Tehran as "a flagrant interference" in the affairs of a foreign state.

The state-run Tehran Radio was quoted as saying that "this demand shows once again the insulting and oppressive attitude of the U.S."

The radio said it amounted to "flagrant interference in Bosnia's internal affairs" and was aimed at protecting the U.S. regional interests.

Kazakh Oil to Be Exported Through Iran

ALMATY (IRNA) - Technical studies on transfer of Kazakh oil to international markets through Iran has been completed and the operations will start during the current month, said the deputy foreign minister of Kazakhstan on Friday.

According to an agreement signed between the two countries, Kazakhstan will export two million tons of oil annually to world markets through Iran as of November. The amount can be raised to six million tons in a decade.

Calling for further expansion of Tehran-Almaty ties, he said Kazakhstan attaches special importance to cooperation with Iran especially in the field of transfer of oil.

Almaty believes that oil cooperation with Tehran will flourish Kazakhstan's economy and reinforce bilateral cooperation, he said.

Iran Takes Share in \$600m Russian Port Project

DUBAI (Reuters) - Iran has taken a 35 percent share in a firm set up to build a new \$600 million port on Russia's Caspian Sea coast, state-run Tehran radio said on Friday.

It quoted an unnamed Russian official as saying the two countries' transportation ministers had signed an agreement giving Iran a 35 percent share in a company which would build the new port near Russia's Caspian Sea town of Astrakhan.

The radio did not name the other shareholders in the firm.

Earlier Iranian reports said the port would have an annual capacity of 10 million tons.

Romanian President for Promotion of Tehran-Bucharest Ties

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK TEHRAN - Iran's Ambassador to Bucharest Mohammad Reza Morshedzadeh submitted his credentials to Romanian President Friday. President of Romania Ion Iliescu called for promotion of Tehran-Bucharest ties on the same day.

Stressing the key role of Iran at international and regional arena, the Middle East in particular, Iliescu welcomed the outcome of the 11th joint Iran-Romania economic-technical commission held in Tehran recently.

According to IRNA, he also praised Iran's cooperation in resolving problems on the way of bilateral relations and finding new avenues to further upgrade mutual ties especially in the field of oil.

The Romanian president referred to Iran's rich oil and gas resources and Romania's experience in the relevant industries as suitable ground for bilateral cooperation.



KABUL, AFGHANISTAN: Three women wearing burqa, a head-to-toe garment imposed on women by the Taliban militia, hitch a ride on the back of a donkey cart Nov. 2 passing by the ruins of the former commercial district of the Afghan capital. As fighting between the Islamic Taliban militia and an opposition alliance to control Kabul goes on, women in the Afghan capital try to adapt to the strict Islamic laws imposed by the Taliban, leaving their homes only on rare occasions and always wearing the mandatory burqa in fear of punishment from the militiamen. (AFP Photo)

CIA Orders Review of Persian Gulf War Chemical Weapons Cover-Up Charges

WASHINGTON, U.S.A. (AFP) - The CIA said it will probe charges it covered up Persian Gulf War chemical weapons exposure reports, but a former CIA analyst who started the controversy ridiculed the idea of the agency investigating itself.

The Central Intelligence Agency, during an extraordinary press conference at its suburban Washington headquarters, ordered the inquiry Friday and released nearly 400 related documents it had been holding for months on the subject.

But even before the moves were announced, a Washington publisher had posted the documents independently on the Internet.

Pressure for the documents' release mounted after two former CIA analysts charged this week that the agency was covering up evidence of chemical weapons exposures during the 1991 war, and

retaliated against them when they pursued the issue.

CIA Executive Director Nora Slatkin emphatically denied the allegations by Patrick and Robin Eddington, a husband and wife team who went public with their charges Wednesday in an interview with the New York Times.

"Nevertheless, these are serious allegations," Slatkin said. "Therefore, the director of Central Intelligence has underscored his commitment to the American public to leave no stone unturned by directing the CIA inspector general to review these allegations."

Patrick Eddington ridiculed Slatkin's request for a CIA inspector-general's inquiry.

"The notion of the CIA investigating itself is simply not credible. We need to have the Congress of the United States, in a bipartisan fashion, investigate this," Eddington said.

The Eddingtons, recently resigned from the CIA, have accused top officials of seeking to suppress evidence that Iraq attacked American troops with nerve gas during the 1991 conflict.

Slatkin said the CIA put 369 documents back on the Internet Thursday, more than nine months after they had been removed from a Pentagon website for Persian Gulf War veterans because of concerns they could compromise sources and methods.

Slatkin said those concerns were legitimate, but once the documents had been put on the Internet independently Thursday by Insignia USA, the Washington publisher, there was no reason not to restore them.

Another 21 documents from a batch of 58 that the Eddingtons said supported their findings also were posted on the Internet, Slatkin said.

Arab Fighters Took Part in Anti-Russian Operation, Chechen Chief

CAIRO, EGYPT (AFP) - Ten Arab fighters took part in anti-Russian operations last year and two of them were killed, Chechen rebel field Commander Shamil Basayev said in an interview published yesterday.

Basayev told the London-based Arabic newspaper Al-Hayat that the operations, which he led, were mounted August 1995 in Russian territory and Dagestan, neighboring Chechnya.

He paid tribute to young men from Arab and other Muslim countries who came to fight alongside the Chechens, but did not disclose the nationality of the 10 Arabs who took part in the August 1995 operation.

Russian authorities have frequently accused the Chechen separatist rebels of using Arab mercenaries.

Basayev criticized the peace accord signed at the end of January with Moscow, which brands him the world's leading terrorist, but said he wanted to run in planned January elections in Chechnya.

He denied calling for an Islamic state in Chechnya along the lines of Iran or Sudan. "However Chechens must learn the Quran (Muslim holy book) and not the works of Lenin," Basayev said.

Basayev led the separatist guerrillas' assault on Grozny in August. He earned notoriety in Russia after leading a raid on the southern town of Budennovsk in June 1995, seizing more than 1,000 hostages in a hospital.



BAGHDAD, IRAQ: Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassine Ramadan told the media that Iraq will extend its trade relations with the Arab countries to achieve a free trade area at the opening speech during the inauguration of the 29th session of the Baghdad International Trade Fair held in Baghdad Nov. 1. Official in background is unidentified. (AFP Photo)

FBI Frustrated Over Saudi Bomb Investigation

WASHINGTON, U.S.A. (AFP) - Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Louis Freeh has ordered a scaling back of FBI teams in Saudi Arabia for lack of Saudi cooperation in the investigation of a June bomb blast, according to a report yesterday.

The New York Times reported that Freeh has become exasperated with the U.S. agency being cut off from the Saudi investigation of the June 25 truck bombing that killed 19 Americans, and the lack of interaction has compelled him to halt the deployment of FBI replacement teams being sent to Saudi Arabia.

The paper reported that over 70 agents were sent to the scene after the Dhahran blast, but that number has dwindled to fewer than a dozen.

The paper quoted unnamed law enforcement officials speaking Friday as saying that replacement agents who were to have been sent to Saudi Arabia early this week were ordered to remain on their regular assignments.

In addition, agents who were on site and who had already been moved to Riyadh had been reassigned, the paper said.

The United States has not concluded who was responsible for the truck bombing despite a report of arrests and an Iranian connection, Defense Secretary William Perry said Friday.

The Washington Post reported that Saudi Arabia is holding 40 suspects in the bombing of the U.S. military facility and that evidence points to Iran as the possible culprit.

Milosevic Confident of Victory in Yugoslav Polls

BELGRADE (AFP) - Voters in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia go to the polls today for the first elections since war ended in neighboring Bosnia, with President Slobodan Milosevic predicting victory for his leftist coalition.

Milosevic, buoyed by the lifting of international economic sanctions a month ago, has predicted a "historic victory" for his ruling Socialist Party (SPS).

Milosevic was forced to form an alliance with the Yugoslav left group led by his wife, Mira Markovic, and the Socialist's traditional allies, the New Democrats, after early opinion polls gave his party a poor 25-30 percent of the vote.

The strong opposition coalition, together, has had problems of its own. It has been badly hit by the withdrawal of its leader, former Central Bank Governor Dragoslav Avramovic, 76, who pulled out ostensibly for health reasons.

However, in a country where



politics has been shrouded in suspicion, many believe he may have come under pressure from the authorities.

Milosevic - blamed by the international community for fueling the separatist wars in the former Yugoslavia and thus sparking its wrath in the form of economic sanctions which crippled the country - remains confident of victory.

Major IRA Meeting to Discuss Stepping up Terror Campaign

LONDON, ENGLAND (AFP) - The highest Irish Republican Army (IRA) gathering for a decade is to discuss yesterday whether to step up the group's renewed campaign of violence, a TV news report said Friday, quoting security sources.

Britain's Independent Television News (ITN) said some 100 top IRA officials are to attend a meeting in Ireland of the so-called general army convention, the organization's supreme authority which has met only twice before.

The convention is unlikely to discuss the possibility of a re-

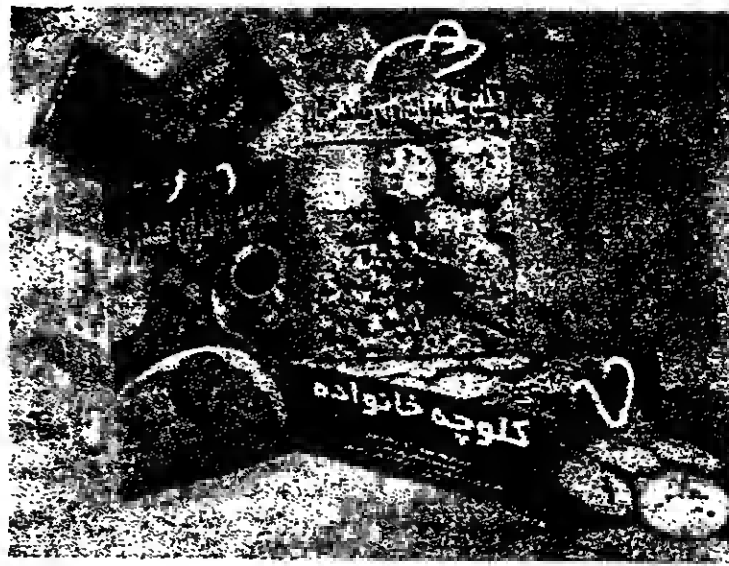
newed cease-fire, ITN said. It added that security forces in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic, who have been monitoring border crossings during Friday, believe that the meeting is intended to debate the scale of future violence.

It is also aimed at finding a strategy which will unite the movement because of uncertainty over its direction.

ITN said some IRA members want targets to remain highly selective, while others advocated a return to more widespread violence.

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کلوچه سازان

Heavy Fighting in Goma, Aid Workers Evacuated

GOMA, ZAIRE (AFP) - Goma was plunged into heavy fighting yesterday as Rwandan troops were reported to be attacking and pushing back Zairean soldiers in the embattled town, from which the last aid workers were evacuated.

An AFP photographer who went into the eastern Zairean town yesterday morning reported fierce clashes in the center between Zairean soldiers and what looked like uniformed Rwandan troops.

Zairean soldiers began pulling back amid exchanges of RPG rocket fire and mortar and automatic weapons fire, he said.

Residents left in the town began looting, first breaking into warehouses and depots belonging to humanitarian aid organizations such as the Red Cross, then plundering shops, stealing televisions, refrigerators and anything else they could get their hands on.

Fighting has been raging for several days between Zairean troops and Tutsi rebels for control of Goma, capital of North Kivu Province. Rwandan soldiers were reported Friday to have entered the

town in support of the rebels.

Rebel Tutsis claim to have already seized a huge chunk of eastern Zaire, including Bukavu, the capital of South Kivu, and the port of Uvira.

Earlier, in the street in front of his hotel in central Goma, this AFP journalist also saw armed elements who could not be identified firing an RPG grenade launcher toward the Zaire-Rwanda border 300 meters (yards) away. Automatic weapons fire could be heard from all nearby streets, although it was impossible to say who was firing at whom.

The final 108 aid workers and 11 foreign journalists were later evacuated just across the border to the Rwandan town of Gisenyi, from where artillery and automatic weapons fire could be heard continuing in Goma.

That evacuation passed without incident, but a group of six photographers was shot at by rebel Tutsis in civilian clothes as they left Goma.

A Swedish photographer in another group of journalists was shot.



GISENYI, RWANDA: Gisenyi residents flee the border town Nov. 1 after Zairean mortar shells hit the city, killing one person and wounding another five. Rwandan and Zairean troops exchanged mortar and anti-aircraft fire for a few hours Nov. 1.

(AFP Photo)

Bosnia's Controversial Minister to Be Replaced

SARAJEVO (AFP) - The Bosnian deputy defense minister Hasan Cengic whom Washington wants removed before it hands over nearly \$100 million of U.S. weapons is to be replaced, an aide to President Alija Izetbegovic said yesterday.

Izetbegovic's spokesman Mirza Hajric said the Parliament of the Muslim-Croat Federation would decide shortly on replacing the minister and "would take into account the views of the American government."

French Diplomat Abducted in Yemen Freed

PARIS, FRANCE (Reuters) - A French diplomat abducted by Yemeni tribesmen on October 20 has been released and is in good health, the French Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

The unnamed diplomat was kidnapped as he drove his car in Sanaa and was held in Marib province, 170 km (100 miles) north of the Yemeni capital by Al-Toaiman tribesmen.

The Foreign Ministry thanked Yemeni authorities for their help in securing the diplomat's release but gave no details on how this was obtained.

Kohl Expected in Moscow to See Yeltsin

MOSCOW, RUSSIA (AFP) - German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who has warmer relations with Boris Yeltsin than any other Western leader, was due to stop over here briefly yesterday to show support for the ailing Russian president.

Kohl was expected to hold talks lasting 90 minutes with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin at Vnukovo Airport, en route from Japan to Germany.

However, no meeting was scheduled with Yeltsin, who is undergoing intensive preparations for a life-saving heart bypass operation, which could take place next week.

U.S., S. Korea Agree on Strategy to Keep N. Korea in Check

WASHINGTON, U.S.A. (AFP) - The United States and South Korea agreed Friday to pursue efforts to reduce the nuclear threat from North Korea and to keep an offer for talks on the table despite the recent submarine incursion.

Defense Secretary William Perry and his South Korean counterpart Kim Dong Jin also said they have yet to decide whether to resume joint military maneuvers that were suspended for two years to foster an improved climate on the peninsula.

Australia Rules out Sanctions Against Burma

SINGAPORE (AFP) - Australia's Deputy Premier Tim Fischer yesterday ruled out sanctions as a weapon to prod Burma's military regime to improve its human rights record.

Asked during a stopover here whether the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) constructive engagement policy with Burma would work, Fischer said, "I'll tell you what won't work: Sanctions will never work with regard to Burma."

The World at a Glance



GIJON, SPAIN - A bomb exploded yesterday at the courthouse of the northern Spanish town of Gijon, injuring no-one, and a second device was made safe in a pharmacy owned by a former government official, police said.

JAKARTA, INDONESIA - The Indonesian government has begun investigating environmental, labor and legal bodies in a crackdown on vocal and confrontational non-governmental organizations, according to a report yesterday.

LIMA, PERU - A bus plunged off a cliff near Lima Friday, leaving at least 39 people dead and 15 injured, police said.

EL PASO, TEXAS - The next summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialized countries will be held in Denver, Colorado, June 20-22, the White House announced Friday.

DHAKA, BANGLADESH - The private secretary of Bangladesh's opposition Leader Khaleda Zia was being investigated yesterday after being caught carrying a gun into the Parliament building, police said.

MUSCAT, OMAN - Oman's deputy prime minister for security and defense, Sayed Fahar ibn Taimour as-Said, died yesterday, the official Omani news agency ONA announced. He was 71.

SAN PABLO MACUILXOCHITL, MEXICO - State police were combing the hills of a southern Mexican town Friday for members of a new rebel group who apparently killed five policemen when they stopped to investigate a fiery roadblock.

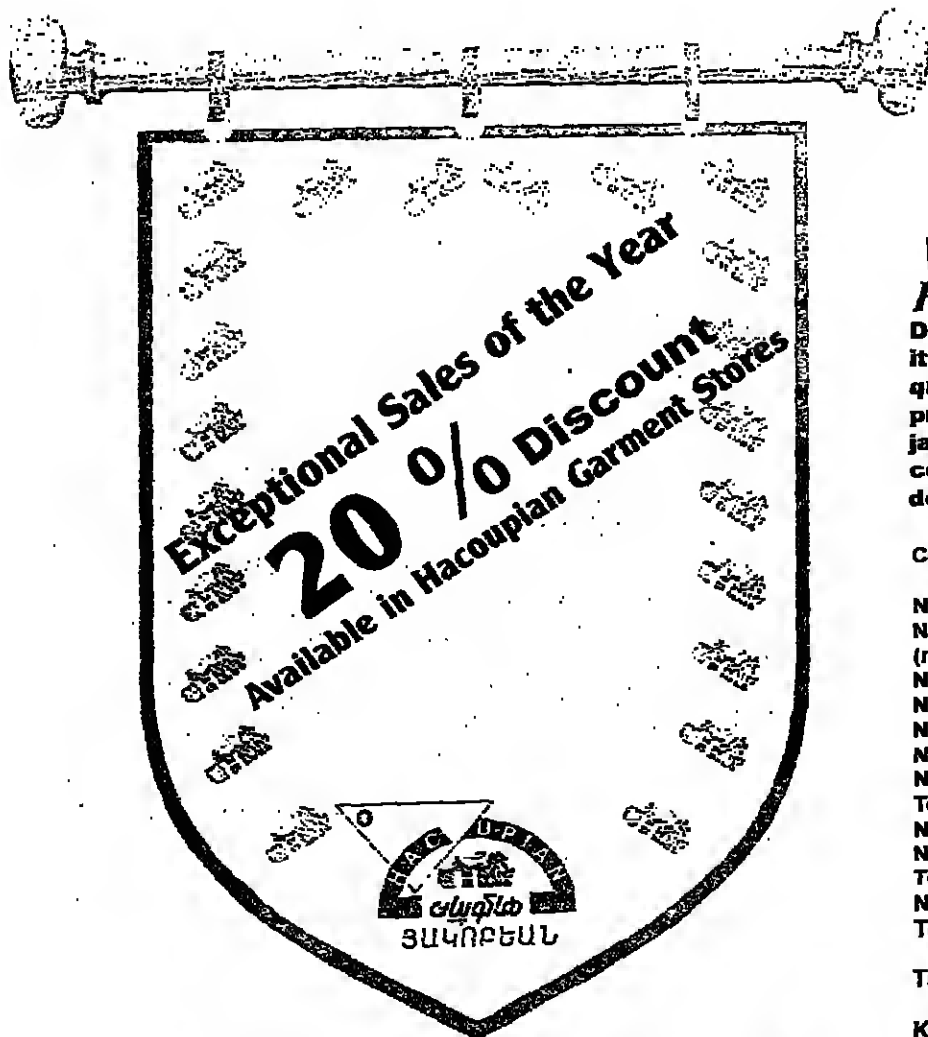
MOSCOW, RUSSIA - Russian President Boris Yeltsin's multiple heart bypass operation is likely to last six to eight hours, a Kremlin spokesman said yesterday, quoted by Interfax news agency.

BELFAST, N. IRELAND - A man appeared in a Belfast court yesterday charged over a double car bomb attack on a British army barracks a month ago in which one soldier died and 30 other people were injured.

(DISPATCHES)

Women on
zrat Fatima

al Regime



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- No. 5: Homa Hotel (Hight), Mashhad Tel: (051) 832001-9
- No. 6: Homa Hotel, Vanak Sq., Tehran Tel: 8773021-9
- No. 7: Terminal No. 1, Mehrabad airport Tel: 91023278
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- No. 9: Somayeh St., behind Azadi Park, Shiraz Tel: (071) 47957
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Sports Highlights

Edberg's Last Stand

PARIS (AFP) - Stefan Edberg (above) walked off court to an emotional standing ovation at the Paris Indoor Open late Monday night after playing his last competitive match in the French capital.

He smiled sadly, held aloft a miniature copy of the tournament trophy presented to him by French federation president Christian Bimes, bowed politely to all four corners of the stadium, and thanked the crowd for their support.

The cheering continued for several seconds after he had disappeared into the labyrinth of corridors under the Bercy Stadium and anybody hearing the applause could be forgiven for thinking he had just won the \$2.5 million event.

The 30-year-old former world number-one, who is to retire after the Davis Cup final against France in Sweden later this month, bowed out to 12th seeded compatriot Thomas Enqvist, going down 6-4, 7-6 (8/6).

And he played his final match as he would best like to be remembered, serving and volleying with the same conviction which had made him break from the mold of Swedish baseliners over a decade ago and giving one hundred per cent in a hard-fought tie-break as he strove against the odds to turn back the clock.

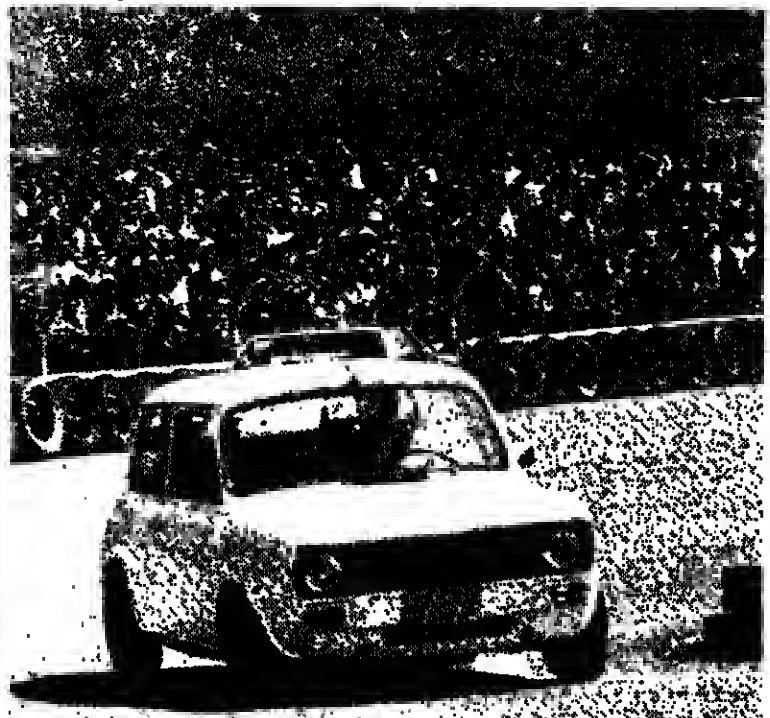
Still drawn to the net like a magnet, Edberg was still able to delight the crowd with his elegant volleying, and if popularity won matches Edberg would have lived to fight another day.

But it was not to be. Enqvist, hitting sledgehammer groundstrokes from the baseline and staying ice calm under pressure picked off Edberg's service time and again with deadly accurate returns.

He broke Edberg only once, in the last game of the 36-minute first set, tucking away a sizzling cross-court backhand out of reach. But he then appeared to lose his momentum when Edberg fought his way 5-2 clear in the second set tie-break.

Enqvist admitted he had mixed feelings after his victory. "Stefan is a great competitor and it is always a special feeling to play him. It was an honor for me to play him. But once you're on court you play to win."

"When I'm not playing I like to see Stefan win too you know. He's one of the guys you always look up to."



TEHRAN: Majid Hadjesfandiari winner of 1300 GT class driving his Mini Minor at Azadi Speedway November 1st. A series of 11 races were held in commemoration of Fatima (S)'s birth anniversary. More than 11,000 fans attended the day-long auto racing event.

Redskins Roll Into Buffalo

WASHINGTON (AFP) - A seven-game win streak has the Washington Redskins challenging American Football's elite and eating well, even though there will be an empty plate at free-meal Mondays for the next month or so.

The Redskins carry a 7-1 record, the National Football League's best, into Buffalo on Sunday in a matchup of Division leaders.

Since Washington quarterback Gus Frerotte began treating his offensive partners and their loved ones to a free meal every Monday after a victory, the Redskins have been undefeated.

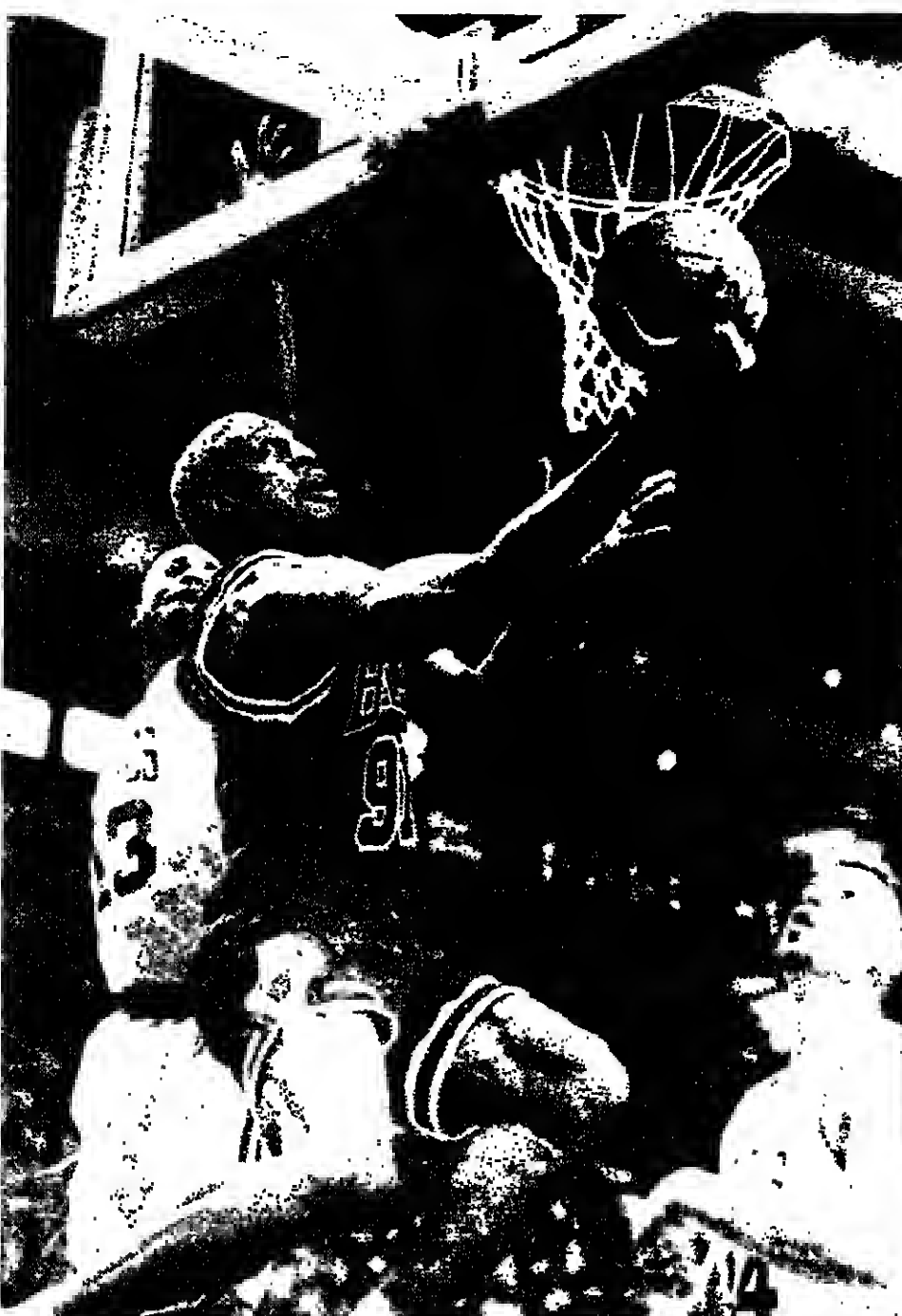
"It's great food and big portions," Frerotte said. "I always wanted to do something for everybody on offense. This is a way of getting everybody together to celebrate. It's just a way to get that closeness."

But the Redskins suffered a loss when center Cory Raymer suffered a bruised kidney, fractured back vertebrae and sprained left shoulder Tuesday in an auto accident that will sideline him from four to six weeks.

Also injured were Brian Thure, a player on injured reserve already for the season, and part-time Redskin strength coach Hugo Garcia.

IRAN NEWS

SPORTS



BOSTON, U.S.A.: Dennis Rodman (C) of the Chicago Bulls drives past Todd Day (L) and Frank Brickowski (R) of the Boston Celtics in second half action in Boston Nov. 1. Chicago won 107-98.

Bulls Open New season

TORONTO (Reuters) - The NBA opened its season celebrating its 50th anniversary with a touch of nostalgia in Toronto's loss to the New York Knicks on Friday, while in Boston, Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls recreated more recent history with a win over the Celtics.

The Knicks' 107-99 victory over the Raptors came exactly 50 years from the day that the Knicks beat the Toronto Huskies 68-66 in the first game of a predecessor League to the National Basketball Association.

To honor the event, the teams wore uniforms similar to those the clubs wore in 1946. Toronto's uniforms featured "Huskies" across the front.

Allan Houston, who had 28 points, and Buck Williams made successful Knick debuts by keying a 13-4 run midway through the fourth quarter that gave New York a win and spoiled the coaching debut of Toronto's Darrell Walker.

The Knicks acquired Houston, Williams, Larry Johnson and Chris Childs in the off-season in retooling aimed at challenging Chicago's supremacy. Childs is on the injured list with a broken leg.

"The names on the backs of the jerseys are not going to win it for us," Houston said. "We're really going to have to work for it. I had a lot of adrenaline my first game as a Knick. It was nice to be part of the first win."

In Boston, eight-time scoring champion Michael Jordan scored 30 points and Toni Kukoc added seven of his 20 during a third-quarter burst as the Bulls opened defense of their NBA title with a 107-98 victory.

Dennis Rodman added 13 points and 13 rebounds for the Bulls, who erased a 16-point second-quarter deficit and beat the Celtics for the eighth straight time. Chicago won its first five games last season en route to a League-record 72-10 mark.

In Orlando, Rod Strickland had 20 points and nine assists in his Washington debut as the Bulls banded the post-Shaq Magic an immediate home loss, 96-92.

In Houston, Clyde Drexler nearly recorded a rare quadruple-double with 25 points, 10 rebounds, 10 steals and nine assists as the Rockets rolled to a 96-85 victory over the Sacramento Kings.

Only four players in NBA history. Nate Thurmond, Alvin

Capriati to Face Seles in Chicago Semis

CHICAGO (Reuters) - Jennifer Capriati advanced to a semifinal round for the first time this year, earning a match with top seed Monica Seles in the \$150,000 Ameritech Cup. "This is the year for both our comebacks," said Capriati, who advanced after injured Meredith McGrath withdrew from their quarter-final match on Friday trailing 5-2. "It's exciting, really. It will be fun, fun for me."

Swiss teen sensation Martina Hingis will try to avenge a loss in the Zurich finals when she faces second-seeded Czech Jana Novotna, ranked fifth in the world, in the other semifinal match.

VOL. III, No. 594 TEHRAN Price 200 Rials

Sunday November 3, 1996. Aban 13, 1375, Jomada II 21, 1417

Shaq Electrifies Los Angeles Crowd

INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA (AP) - Shaquille O'Neal didn't disappoint his new fans as the NBA season began for the Los Angeles Lakers.

In the opening minutes against the Phoenix Suns on Friday, O'Neal looked like he was worth every penny of the \$120 million the Lakers lavished on him.

He overpowered Joe Klecko on the opening tip, sending the ball out of bounds. O'Neal grabbed his first rebound seconds later, then scored the Lakers' first points with a monster dunk.

A sellout crowd of more than 17,000 erupted in cheers and applause for the 7-foot-1, 300-pound (216-meter, 136 kilogram) center, who last played for Orlando.

"It's a wedding of Shaq and a great city," actor Louis Gossett Jr. said from his seat two rows behind the basket. "It's the beginning of a love affair."

From the looks of it, many fans arrived at the forum already equipped with their Shaq fashions. Youngsters and adults alike sported No. 34 jerseys and T-shirts.

For the unadorned, souvenir stands boasted a variety of Shaq wear, including a \$20 T-shirt with O'Neal dunking against a marquee that read "Opening Night. Now Appearing Shaq."

The selling of Shaq got going even before the forum doors opened. About 4 miles (6 kilometers) away, street vendors hawked O'Neal sweatshirts and T-shirts at a freeway off-ramp.

Everyone wanted an opening night look at O'Neal, who received standing ovations when the team came out for pre-game warm-ups and when he was introduced.

The Lakers issued between 230 and 250 media credentials - about 140 more than usual, team spokesman John Black said.

Noah Morrill couldn't believe his good fortune. The freckle-faced 8-year-old found out he was going to the game, and sitting two rows behind the basket, when he came home from school Friday.

"I was just stoked," he said, adding that he thinks O'Neal is the best basketball player. "I think he's pretty cool because he slam dunks."

His father, Steve Angelo, has high hopes for the Lakers. "It's about time we got a lot of momentum behind us as far as the fans go," he said. "The whole team together is going to do well."



SHAQUILLE O'NEAL



AL AIN, U.A.E.: A motorcyclist jumps a dune in the Qatar south of Abu Dhabi Nov. 1 in the third leg of the U.A.E. Desert Challenge.

(AFP Photo)

کتابخانه

Sales in Chicago Semis
A report from the Chicago office of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) says that sales of new semi-trailers in the city have increased significantly in recent months. The report notes that the IBT's local union has been successful in negotiating better terms for its members, which has led to a surge in new orders. The union also reports that the city's economy is showing signs of recovery, with many businesses looking to expand their fleets.

FEHRIAN: 1000 Risk
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aq Electrifies Angeles Crowd

The group could meet again in February, he said, "and possibly at more frequent intervals thereafter". Several diplomats said that the second meeting of the working group on Chinese membership made "real progress". China wants to speed up the negotiating process, they noted.

Long Yongtu, Chinese deputy foreign trade minister, who heads the Chinese delegation, said that the Chinese government had decided to accept the "standstill" principle and to offer an undertaking that China "will not promulgate new laws and policies incompatible with WTO rules".

The negotiations so far have borne only on the six appendices to the membership document, which Chinese diplomats say contain a detailed description of China's foreign trade and new offers.

"Since last March, China has adopted a series of measures improving its market economic system and expanding the opening of its market", Long said. He added that China had cut tariffs on almost 5,000 products, done away with non-tariff barriers on more than 100 products, and unified the foreign currency market to ensure national treatment.

Several WTO members noted that bilateral negotiations will also be required. Bilateral negotiations between the European Union and China are to start next Tuesday.

Talks on Chinese WTO Membership to Resume February

GENEVA (AFP) - Negotiations on Chinese membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO) will resume next February, diplomats said on Friday in Geneva - WTO headquarters.

The working group considering Chinese membership met informally here the last few days and is "a good basis for negotiations", according to the group chairman, Pierre-Louis Girard of Switzerland.

The group could meet again in February, he said, "and possibly at more frequent intervals thereafter".

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Indian PM Off for G-15 Summit in Harare

NEW DELHI (AFP) - Indian Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda left Saturday for Harare to attend the sixth summit of the G-15 countries, his first overseas visit since assuming office in June.

Deve Gowda will hold talks with other heads of states at the G-15 conference and also sign bilateral trade agreements with Senegal and Zimbabwe, the Foreign Ministry said. The three-day summit begins Sunday.

The G-15, formed in 1989, comprises Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Venezuela and Zimbabwe.

The summit will review the global economic situation and international relations affecting developing countries, Indian officials said. It will also discuss issues such as environment, health and labor.

British Telecom in Talks to Buy MCI Communications

NEW YORK (AP) - British Telecommunications PLC is in talks to merge with MCI Communications Corp., a mammoth deal that would be the most recent in a slew of major phone-company marriages.

MCI said in a short statement Friday that the huge global deal could be announced as early as Monday. It would rank as one of the biggest foreign takeovers of a U.S. company ever.

British Telecom, the dominant phone company in Great Britain, already owns 20 percent of MCI, which is the No. 2 long-distance company in the United States. Currently, MCI stock is worth about \$20 billion, so a purchase of the rest would likely be worth at least \$16 billion.

Such a merger would follow

several major Telecom deals, most recently long-distance provider Worldcom Inc.'s agreement to buy MFS Communications Co. for about \$14.4 billion.

Other big announced deals include Bell Atlantic Corp.'s merger with Nynex Corp. and SBC Communications Inc.'s purchase of Pacific Telesis Group.

"MCI announced this afternoon that its board of directors is considering a possible strategic merger with BT," the company said in a short statement. "MCI anticipates that its deliberations will be concluded this weekend and an announcement will be made prior to Monday morning."

A combined MCI-BT would create a powerful rival for AT&T Corp.

GM Production Losses Mount, UAW Signals Snag

DETROIT (Reuters) - Strike-fueled production losses mounted for General Motors Corp. Friday as the United Auto Workers (UAW) signaled a snag in labor contract talks by cancelling a Saturday meeting of plant-level leaders here.

The UAW said its 250-member national GM council was now scheduled to meet Wednesday, Nov. 6, in Chicago if the union reaches a tentative agreement covering 215,000 GM workers in the next few days.

Although GM officials declined to rule out an agreement on Friday, the UAW's move was viewed as a negative sign for the talks because it buys more time. The council, made up of local leaders from across the country,

must approve any contract deal. Meanwhile, pressure from local strikes in Indiana and Wisconsin mounted Friday as the number of workers idled by the walkouts exceeded 19,000.

In a two-pronged effort to deprive GM of profits from its light truck operations, 2,750 workers walked off the job at the company's Indianapolis metal stamping plant and 4,809 struck the Janesville, Wis., truck assembly plant Tuesday.

The Indianapolis plant feeds fenders, doors, hoods and other major body panels to nine of GM's 11 North American light truck plants, five of which are now idle, including Janesville.

Economic Discontent Colors Yugoslav Elections



Joblessness a problem for Yugoslav government

BELGRADE (Reuters) - Yugoslavia is heading for the federal elections on Sunday amid widespread discontent with living standards and an economy clearly missing official growth targets.

Almost a year after the suspension of U.N. sanctions, nearly three million people - 28.9 percent of the population of Serbia and Montenegro - are living in poverty according to a Red Cross study.

Ordinary people, who enjoyed the highest standard of living in Eastern Europe before former Yugoslavia's disintegration in 1991, feel the full extent of daily misery. Average per capita income has fallen to \$1,510 a year.

A wave of protests involving thousands of employees demanding work and the payment of wages overdue for months in key industrial centers such as Nis, Kragujevac and the Belgrade suburbs has shaken the authorities.

The ruling Socialists and opposition parties are promising an improvement in but disbelief and discontent are rife.

"I don't expect a better life. My pension will be late again and I'll have to keep that miserably paid second job to make ends meet," said a 58-year-old pensioner referring to her additional 300 dinar (\$60) a month income.

A 28-year-old engineer said: "It will take at least 10 years for things to get better. I'll go to Canada as soon as I get my visa."

The government has repeated its commitment to currency and price stability in a vague outline of its 1997 economic goals.

But economists saw no progress without foreign investment and genuine reform. Earlier estimates said Yugoslavia needed \$2.5 billion a year to develop.

In 1996 Yugoslavia's gross domestic product will grow 5-6 percent at best, to reach \$15.5 billion.

This falls short of the official 12.5 percent growth target and remains 47 percent below pre-1991 level, economists say.

The original forecast was based on expectations that U.N. sanctions would be lifted completely soon after the Dayton Peace Accord was signed in November 1995.

But the hoped for revival of industries made idle by sanctions and an export boom have not materialized.

Yugoslavia will have a \$1.8 billion trade gap at the end of 1996. Its nine-month exports stood at \$1.26 billion and exports at \$2.65 billion.

"Exporters sell at low prices... it is painful, but we must realize export earnings are not the key to our problems," said Danko Djunic, head of the economics institute. Companies need to downsize and adjust to new market reality, he added.

Many economists were puzzled about sources of financing the trade gap.

"The government says over \$1 billion is paid from companies' bank accounts held abroad," Stojan Stamenkovic of the Institute of Economic Sciences told Reuters.

But even so, those funds will be exhausted and the trade gap will have to be financed from official reserves. "In any case, we cannot live on without foreign capital," he said.

The reserves amounted to only \$330 in May when official figures were last issued.

Slow reform, an expanding trade gap, lack of privatization and absence from the world capital markets do not provide an investment climate for a country bound to start repaying its debt to international creditors as early as 1997.

"We talk about some \$600 mil-

lion to pay back interest, and for that, we also need foreign funds," Stamenkovic said.

Any recovery will be purely temporary, as long as we do not ensure a stable inflow of foreign capital, he said. "It means fresh capital, new management and high technologies."

Defending the government's economic stand, a leading government economist Oskar Kovac praised Belgrade's commitment to its current policy. "There were huge temptations to print money to pay wages and pensions, but the government resisted."

Economists also cautioned against high inflationary expectations. The annual inflation rate stood at 83.8 percent in September.

"Overall economic surroundings and high inflationary expectations are worrying," said Goran Pitic of the economics institute, adding any progress depended on restructuring.

But industry restructuring was out of question until the government presents a clear social program, one analyst said. A complete economic and social program waits for the state to negotiate deals with the International Monetary Fund and other creditors.

Despite tight Central Bank policy and the dinar stable at 3.3 to the German mark over past 11 months, the local financial market expects a post-election devaluation.

Mladjan Dinkic of the Belgrade School of Economics expected the dinar rate to be changed after the elections. "Sticking to an overrated currency is expensive for the state. The rate is being preserved because of the elections only, to leave an impression of stability."

Fokker Administrator in South Korea for Talks

AMSTERDAM (AFP) - One of the judicial administrators of Fokker NV is in South Korea to continue talks with the Samsung Group on taking over the bankrupt Dutch aircraft maker, Fokker's trustees announced.

In a statement, they said that the administrator, Louis Deterink, has been in South Korea since Thursday, as the Friday deadline for concluding an agreement came and went.

Fokker's sub-contractors wanted to know by Friday what

the fate of the world's oldest aircraft manufacturer would be, in order to decide whether to keep their own assembly lines intact in the event of a Samsung takeover.

Among the sub-contractors are Northern Ireland's Shorts, a unit of Canadian Aerospace Group Bombardier, Germany's Daimler Benz Aerospace Airbus and Britain's Rolls-Royce Engines.

Without commenting on the progress of the talks with Samsung, the trustees said they had the impression "that a delay of a

few days would not be insurmountable" for the sub-contractors.

Earlier on Friday, a press report in Seoul claimed that Samsung Aerospace Industries had reached a final agreement on the purchase cost of Fokker, which specializes in regional airliners.

The Samsung unit has agreed to pay \$150 million to acquire Fokker, with other strings attached, the Maeil (daily) business newspaper quoted a high-ranking Samsung official as saying.

Economic Digest

WASHINGTON - The unemployment rate was unchanged at 5.2 percent in October as the economy resumed producing jobs at a healthy pace; factory orders in September rose 2.7 percent.

WASHINGTON - The big three automakers said they will start warning consumers that in certain cases, air bags can be dangerous, and they will lessen the force of inflating air bags in Canada.

NEW YORK - Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and the Limited Inc. have filed a class action antitrust lawsuit against Visa USA alleging that retailers are being forced to accept a type of debit card for which they must pay "exorbitant" fees.

LONDON - Fast food giant McDonald's Corp.'s marathon libel case against two environmental activists became the longest trial in English legal history.

CLEWISTON - In the dispute over Florida sugar, the only certainty is that the nice-pristine waters of the Everglades need help. Florida voters will decide on a proposed sugar tax Tuesday.

NEW YORK - A majority of the nation's top companies are missing opportunities to take greater advantage of the fast-growing, \$300 billion Hispanic market, according to a study.

YELLOWKNIFE - Canada gives final approval for an Arctic diamond mine proposed by Australian giant Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd and Din Mei Minerals Ltd of Canada.

LONDON - British pay television operator Bskyb said that its first quarter pre-tax profit had risen by 31 percent to 66 million pounds (\$107.5 million).

FRANKFURT - Germans were at last allowed to shop until late, after a law left over from the 1950s was loosened, but opponents said the change would damage family life and do little to boost sales.

TOKYO - Japan's reserves of convertible foreign currencies, gold and International Monetary Fund special drawing rights in October rose by \$1.19 billion from September to a new record of \$216.22 billion, the Finance Ministry reported Friday.

The Finance Ministry maintains a policy of not explaining specifically why the level of foreign reserves changes in any month, but October's rise likely reflects interest earned on existing reserves.

Japan's foreign reserves rose for the 30th consecutive month, a Finance Ministry official said.

The official said that judging from the most recent statistics available in each country, Japan holds the largest reserves of any nation - a position the country has held for 36 consecutive months.

China was second with \$92.4 billion as of the end of July.

TOKYO - Mazda Motor Corp. said Friday it has begun overseas sales of its new Demio compact wagon, which was launched in Japan in August.

Sales in Australia, one of four markets where overseas sales are planned, started Friday with a monthly target of 450 vehicles.

Sales in New Zealand were to begin Saturday, Mazda said.

Sales in Hong Kong and Macao started on Oct. 25 and orders for the first six days totaled 512 vehicles, the company said.

IRAN
FEATURE NEWS

Color Blind Blood Test May Help Children

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A simple new experimental blood test can detect color blindness and measure its severity, researchers said earlier.

A test could help determine if a child is learning-disabled, or is merely having trouble with color-coded basic learning tools.

"When my brother-in-law was a child, he was labeled as 'not being able to follow directions.' But he was color-blind - when they told him to color the clown's nose red, he was at a loss," said Jay Neitz, who developed the test with his wife and colleague Maureen Neitz at the Eye Institute of the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee.

A simple color blindness test may also become valuable in

evaluating color vision for job skills ranging from jet fighter pilots to pharmaceutical inspectors to many professions that rely more and more on color-coded computer information, he said.

The test, described in the latest edition of the journal Science, is still experimental and there are not yet firm plans on how to commercialize it, although Jay Neitz said in a telephone interview, "we want to do something that has practical interest... I hope we can bring it to the public."

He said the blood test techniques they have developed may someday also prove useful in evaluating other more complex genetic disorders that affect behavior, possibly including mental illnesses with a genetic component.

"The only way you know (people have these problems) is that they act differently. They don't have a tumor, there's nothing you can cut open," he said. "Actions are the only way you can identify what's different, because what's different is in their central nervous system."

About one-in-10 men have some degree of color blindness, and about one-in-20 have a form of red-green color blindness known as deuteranomaly.

In a Science article last year, the Neitzs showed there were at least 10 pigment genes in color blindness. That overturned 200 years of conventional wisdom that there were three genes, for each of the primary colors, red, green and blue.

"Grumpy Old Men" at Greater Risk of Heart Attack

DALLAS (Reuters) - "Grumpy old men" are up to three times more likely to suffer from heart disease than their calmer contemporaries, according to a new scientific study to be published yesterday.

The study by a team of Boston scientists involved 1,305 men aged between 40 and 90. The men were categorized in 1986 in terms of their ability or inability to control anger and the scientists tracked their health over following years.

Results showed a direct link between anger and risk - the higher the level of anger, the higher the risk of the body responding with a heart attack or chest pains.

Even when age and other factors like tobacco and alcohol con-

sumption were factored in, men who scored between five and 14 on the anger scale were 3.15 times more likely to suffer a heart attack than the calmer men, who scored 0 or 1.

"Men who have very violent outbursts of anger are at a greater risk," Dr. Ichiro Kawachi, who led the study team, told Reuters.

Kawachi said men who easily fly into a rage should try to calm down in order to better protect themselves from heart trouble.

"Some people are chronically, excessively and unreasonably angry... for those people, a course of anger management might be helpful," he said - adding that their families and neighbors might also benefit.

Of the 1,305 men, none of

whom suffered from heart disease when the study began. 20 went on to suffer fatal heart attacks, 30 had non-fatal heart attacks and 60 developed angina pectoris, or chest pains caused by heart disease.

None of the almost 200 calmest men suffered fatal heart attacks. There were eight heart attack victims among those who scored two to four on the anger scale and 12 of the angriest group of men were killed by heart attacks.

They were also 1.81 times more likely to have non-fatal heart attacks and 2.44 times more likely to suffer angina pectoris than the mellow men.

The study published on Friday in "Circulation", a journal of the Dallas-based American Heart Association.

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Classics Celebrate Cars' Centenary



A 1907 Rover crosses Ashness Bridge in northern England during the recent 1996 FIVA World Rally of historic cars, held to celebrate 100 years of the British motor industry.

The 1000-mile event, staged from Edinburgh in Scotland to Coventry - the birthplace of the U.K. motor industry - attracted 300 entries from 21 countries.

Some of the most famous marks in motoring history took part, including a Wolseley tricycle built in 1896, a Peugeot from the same year, a 1904 Mercedes and a 1904 Renault.

At the other end of the scale

were classic cars from the 1950s to the mid-1970s. The route took in some of Britain's most attractive and historic areas: Stratford-upon-Avon, York, Nottingham and the Lake District.

Organized by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs, the 1996 FIVA (Federation Internationale Vehicules Anciens) rally's main sponsor was the Rover Group.

Courtesy of London Press Service

LPS

A 1929 Triumph Super 7, pictured during the recent 1996 FIVA World Rally of historic cars, held to celebrate 100 years of the British motor industry.



A Bentley Light Tourer, pictured beside Lake Windermere, northwest England, during the recent 1996 FIVA World Rally of historic cars, held to celebrate 100 years of the British motor industry.



Huge Ozone Hole Leaves Antarctica with Tropical Level UVR

GENEVA (AFP) - An ozone hole almost twice the size of Europe, has left the North of Antarctica receiving ultra-violet radiation equivalent to that in the tropics, the World Meteorological Organization warned here.

A loss of up to 90 percent of ozone which shields the Earth from harmful ultra-violet radiation, was found in an area covering 20 million square kilometers (eight million square miles) at the end of September, the WMO said.

The "hole" has since shrunk to 18 million square kilometers (7.2 million square miles) but it has stayed this big for 50 days - a duration only previously observed on this scale in 1993 and 1995, said Dr. Runen Bojkov, an ozone specialist at the WMO.

"If current size is maintained until the middle of next week, this will be another record setting season," he said. The WMO said the phenomenon had left regions of the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean exposed to ultra-violet B radiation "as intensive as it is over the tropical belt which is an extremely rare event", he said.

Experts expect the ozone hole to continue increasing in size for the next 10 years before the effect is felt of international agreements curbing the use of chlorofluorocarbons, compounds found in air conditioners, refrigerators and aerosol cans.

911 Cat May Have Been Kidnapped

TAMPA, Florida (Reuters) - Tipper the cat, who dialed the emergency telephone number to save his life last summer, apparently could not outwit catnappers who snatched him from his Florida home this week.

The six-month-old gray-and-white kitten disappeared earlier after he was left tethered outdoors at the Flying Cloud Mobile Home Park, where he lived with his owner, Gail Curtis, said Kevin O'Donnell, one of Curtis's two roommates.

Tipper became famous on July 8 when he saved himself from choking on his flea collar by going to Curtis's telephone and hitting the speed dial button that reached the "911" emergency operator. The dispatcher heard the kitten's anguished cries and sent an emergency crew, which rescued him.

Tipper's escape became an international news item with local police fielding telephone calls from as far away as Britain, Australia and India. But this time even tipper might not be able to save himself.

O'Donnell said he concluded that the animal was catnapped because his collar and leash were gone but his tether was still in the ground. "There really isn't any alternative," he said. "There's no sign he chewed through the rope."

Curtis has posted signs around her neighborhood offering a reward of \$100 for Tipper's return but by Thursday there had been no word, O'Donnell said.

New Clues to Life on Mars

LONDON (AFP) - New evidence has come to light that life may have existed on Mars billions of years ago and could still be there today, a statement from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) said recently.

British scientists from the Open University and the Natural History Museum have confirmed that a second meteorite from the red planet contains significant amounts of organic material, the statement added.

The scientists also found tiny amounts of carbonate in the original martian meteorite with a geological signature suggesting it was formed from methane - a gas often produced by micro-organisms.

The new evidence was announced here at a meeting of scientists to discuss the possibility of extraterrestrial life hosted by Science Minister Ian Taylor.

The DTI statement said if the new findings were accepted it would mean there could have been life on Mars only 600,000 years ago.

Geologically this is sufficiently recent for there to be a

good chance that life might still exist in protected areas of the planet, it is claimed.

In August experts at the U.S. Space Agency NASA caused a sensation by claiming that a Martian meteorite discovered in Antarctica in 1984 contained crude fossils from primitive micro-organisms.

Scientists are still locked in a fierce debate over whether the "fossils" really were evidence of life or caused by chemical processes.

The first meteorite, ALH 84001, dates back about 3.6 billion years and was blown off the surface of Mars and into space by an asteroid smashing into the planet. Millions of years later it crashed onto Earth.

The new meteorite, EETA 79001, was formed 180 million years ago and is therefore much younger. Like its cousin, it was blasted off the surface of Mars by an asteroid impact.

But EETA 79001, which was also found in Antarctica in 1979, was blown into space only 600,000 years ago.

The key finding announced lately is that the rock contains sig-

nificant amounts of organic material - up to 1,000 parts per million - which is yet to be identified.

But it appears to have been deposited within a temperature zone which on Earth is associated with life.

Colin Pillinger of the Open University said at the meeting that "these findings offer the strongest support yet for the hypothesis that life once existed on the planet Mars."

Although the findings have not yet been published, Pillinger said they were considered important enough to announce immediately.

He personally felt certain there was life on other planets.

"It would be incredibly egotistical for us to believe we are the only planet in the Universe with life on it," he said.

One of the scientists involved in the research revealed that a third Martian meteorite stored at the Natural History Museum since 1913 would now be made available to researchers.

Monica Grady, from the Natural History Museum, said the meteorite NAKHLA fell as a shower of stones in Egypt in 1911.

Food Distribution: Key Issue at Coming Food Summit

CHICAGO (AFP) - World Bank President James Wolfensohn said here earlier that the coming World Food Summit in Rome should address the crucial issue of food distribution.

"My deep concern is the systemic issue of distribution," he noted. "There's enough food at the moment but there are 800 million people hungry" around the world.

The Australian-born former international investment banker will be attending the Rome Summit at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome November 13 to 20.

He said the summit on poverty alleviation was closely linked to rural development. "how we deal with distribution, land ownership, marketing so that (rural) people can make money and distribute their products."

Earlier the World Bank appointed to member states to revitalize rural development, notably by

restoring profitability to agriculture, as a means of averting a possible global food crisis.

"The bank is calling for a transformation of agriculture and rural development as the key to feeding the Earth's growing population, projected to reach eight billion people in the next 30 years," the organization said in a statement in Washington.

"The rural world is the key to resolving the global food security problem well into the next millennium," said bank Vice President for Environmentally Sustainable Development Ismail Serageldin.

"The bank is refocusing its dialogue with countries, putting broad-based rural development in the forefront, increasing support for agricultural research and improved access to credit for the very poor."

The bank warned that while world governments have the ability to ensure food security, "there is absolutely no room for complacency."

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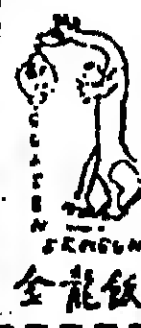
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Four Win International Press Freedom Awards

NEW YORK (Reuters) - A Turkish reporter who chose jail over exile, a Palestinian reporter who challenged censorship and Mexican and Kashmiri journalists who survived assassination attempts were named on Friday as winners of the 1996 International Press Freedom Awards.

The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, which gives the awards, said it will also present a special honor to New York Times publisher Arthur Ochs Sulzberger to mark the 25th anniversary of his paper's decision to publish the Pentagon Papers, a secret history of the Vietnam war that the Nixon administration tried to stop from being made public.

The awards will be given at a dinner in New York on November 26 at which a special tribute will be given in memory of Veronica Guerin, the Irish journalist who won the 1995 Press Freedom Award and who was murdered last June in apparent retribution for her investigation of the drug trade in Ireland.

Turkish journalist and editor Ocak Isik Yurtcu, currently serving a 15-year jail term for disseminating "separatist propaganda," was honored for his now-closed paper's reporting of the Kurdish issue. The committee quoted Yurtcu as saying, "Nobody in the world has been sentenced to so many years in prison for articles others have written."

Palestinian journalist Daoud Kuttab, project director of the Arabic Media Internet network and president of the Palestinian Audio-Visual Union, was honored for challenging censorship of both the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority.

The committee said Kashmiri reporter Yusuf Jameel was being recognized for his reporting in Kashmir and for withstanding assassination attempts, beatings and threats from all sides in the conflict.

J. Jesus Blancornelas, a co-founder of the muckraking weekly Zeta in Tijuana, Mexico, was honored for his work in defending press freedom in Mexico and for inspiring "a newly empowered generation of independent journalists to reject old habits of self-censorship, bribe-taking and government subsidies."

Week of Book

Writer's Widow Donates Books to Cultural Center

IRAN NEWS ART DESK

Two thousand books from the library of the late writer and scholar, Iraj Nabavi, was donated by his widow to Andishe Farhangsara yesterday.

A number of Iraj Nabavi's books will be on display at a special exhibition to the end of the Week of Book.

Villette Science Museum Salutes Environmental Art

An exhibition that fuses art, philosophy, sociology and science to raise people's awareness of what's going on around them, trying to make the point that everything we do has repercussions on the environment

PARIS (AP) - In a country where car pooling is virtually non-existent and smoky cafes remain the eye-smarting norm, a new exhibit at the Villette emerges as ecologically correct.

From a holocaust survivor's rain forest sculpture and an American fable chronicling the ruin of the world's ecosystem, "Villette-Amazon: A Manifesto for the Environment in the 21st Century" is an artistic reflection on the ecological choices facing mankind.

"The point of the show is that the environment isn't something abstract. It's closer than we think," said curator Jacques Leenhardt in an interview.

"How can we perpetuate progress and development without polluting the air we breathe and the water we drink? How can Third World populations overcome poverty and achieve financial independence without destroying the environment?" he said. "These are the questions raised by the art."

The show, which opened last week and runs until Nov. 30, also provides some practical tips to the ecologically concerned.

Outside the Villette exhibition space is a 1-million franc (250,000-dollar) home built and

Bhopal, oil spills, the mad cow disease among them.

Then come the exhibit's centerpiece - Franz Krajcberg's spectacular sculpture, imposing ensembles featuring up to two dozen large-scale pieces carved

mentary of the art on display.

The other main attraction is "The Lagoon Cycle," by the San Diego, California-based Harriet Mayer-Harrison and Newton Harrison.

Spread out in seven show-

- is an all-embracing statement that the environment is not only the business of scientists.

"The work fuses art, philosophy, sociology and science to show raise people's awareness of what's going on around them," said art critic Ann Cremin. "Their real point is that everything we do has repercussions on the environment."

The show is something of an anomaly in France, which is among the least environmentally conscious in Europe. Highly-pollutant diesel fuel abounds, and catalytic converters won't be required on all vehicles until 1997.

Recycling, for example, is a budding industry. Notoriously individualistic, the French resist car pooling - except under duress - to save fuel or fight pollution, which reached record levels in Paris last summer.

Krajcberg's passion for the threatened rain forest is a response to his own personal tragedy. Born in Poland in 1921, he lost his entire family in Nazi death camps. He fled Europe in 1945, and reached Brazil thanks to help from the family of Marc Chagall.

Profoundly traumatized, he found solace in the abundant nature of the rain forest and has devoted his work to saving and enriching man's cultural heritage through the forest.

"The forest is Krajcberg's metaphor for the world," Cremin said. "The wanton destruction of trees for profit resonates in him the idea of people being killed for religious and ethnic reasons."



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Heated by solar energy sealed in by special glass, the "Eco-Logis" (eco-lodging) features sinks and tubs made from recyclable materials, low-energy appliances and water-saving toilets.

The exhibit begins with graphic photos recording recent ecological disasters - Chernobyl,

from blackened vestiges of life in the rain forest.

Thick, flame-licked jungle vines twisted into graceful, almost human-like shapes. Tall trees felled by fire and split down the middle by steam heated to a boil during the blaze.

Also on show are Krajcberg's photographs of the rain forest - a kind of "before and after" docu-

rooms cases, it describes what happens when crab-raising in a peaceful Sri Lankan lagoon turns into a profitable industry on an international scale.

"The ecosystem is a complex, interactive network," Newton Harrison said in an interview.

The composition - revolving around a poetic exchange between the lagoon-maker and his witness

Film International Quarterly



IRAN NEWS ART DESK

The winter-spring edition of Film International, a quarterly journal that attempts to offer a cross-cultural review, has just hit the news stands.

The latest edition of Film International begins with an anthology of essays, stories and poems by 18 Iranian filmmakers. Titled "Ink on Paper" and printed as a tribute to cinema at the beginning of the second century of the 7th art, the section includes writings by Cyrus Alvand, Rakhshan Bani'etemad, Bahram Beizai, Alireza Davud-nezhad, Ali Hatami, Kiumars Poorahmad, Masud Jafari Jozani, Dariush Mehtaj, Abolfazl Jalili,

Abbas Kiarostami, Ebrahim Hatami, Masud Kimiaee, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Amir Naderi, Jafar Panahi, Kambuzia Partovi, Khosro Sinaee, Naser Taqvaee.

In the section titled "Dream Boat", the journal presents reports on film festivals in Iran (Fajr International Film Festival), and abroad (Mannheim, Stockholm, New York, Valladolid).

The journal carries interviews with prominent filmmakers, including the Greek director Theo Angelopoulos, Dutch director of photography Robby Muller, the Paris-based Iranian director Dariush Akhondi, and the Chinese director Tran Anh Hung.

Neil Jordan Emphasizes the Historical

NEW YORK (AP) - Director-screenwriter Neil Jordan musters a tired laugh when confronted with the criticism his film "Michael Collins" has received.

That's because he finds it all "a hit thing."

"I don't mean any harm," he says, laughing again, this time a bit ruefully.

Before coming here to promote the movie, Jordan got flack from British politicians concerned about sectarian tensions in British-ruled Northern Ireland and from British tabloids suggesting his film gives comfort and support to the current Irish Republican Army.

(Meantime, his movie was deemed best at the Venice Film Festival and Liam Neeson's broiled performance as the title role's "Big Fella" nabbed best-actor honors.)

Jordan figures certain segments of the British press don't want any aspect of the Irish experience to be made into films. "There's nothing I can do about that," Jordan says. "Yeats' poetry was written about the same period. They don't call Yeats an apologist for the IRA, do they? ... Yeats was a very strong republican in his day."

He also thinks that part of the problem between Ireland and England is "that any attempt to examine certain facts always gives rise to kind of hysterical positions."

So historical integrity was important to him in making this movie.

The 46-year-old Irish director-screenwriter maintains it's "a fair representation" of the period (1916-1922).

"Even very, very conservative historians would say that. They would argue with certain details and things that I've done. But with

regard to the broad shape of the movie, of the story, I don't think any could argue it's pejorative or propagandist," says Jordan, whose last film was "Interview with the Vampire."

His new film presents the short career of the man who led a guerrilla war against the British to create a free Irish republic - and semi-succeeded. It follows Collins as he directs the IRA's assassination of key British intelligence figures in Dublin; leads a delegation to Britain that produced a compromise treaty in December 1921; and fails to persuade IRA diehards to accept the treaty, culminating in his assassination at age 31 during the subsequent civil war.

Jordan concedes that while well-done histories should be balanced and comprehensive, films don't lend themselves to those traits.

"Nobody lives their life with the advantage of historic objectivity. The one thing you can do in a dramatic reconstruction, ... you can show the kind of confusion out of which events arise," Jordan says. "I think you can give a better account of life as lived."

So Jordan focuses on the emotion, particularly among Collins, his best friend (Aidan Quinn) and the woman they vie for (Julia Roberts) and their moral dilemmas. And, yes, he does take some liberties with the facts, combining three real people into the double agent character played by Stephen Rea.

Long before he made "Michael Collins," Jordan directed films that touched on Irish politics - and touched a raw nerve.

Slings of politicized peevishness were aimed at him after his first movie 14 years ago, "An-

gel." Released in the United States as "Danny Boy," it's about a young saxophonist who gets sucked into Northern Ireland's sectarian violence. The press over there pilloried Jordan for his apologetic approach to the country's problems.

And the director's 1992 hit "The Crying Game" - for which Jordan won an Academy Award for original-screenplay - was attacked by some who saw a sympathetic portrayal of the IRA.

In a recent interview, though, Jordan sounds less than totally sympathetic to the modern IRA.

He doubts Collins would be a proponent of terrorism as it's practiced today. Back then, Collins' targets were all British agents, and he demurred on the more radical plans to bomb London and kill civilians or to assassinate cabinet members. And Jordan maintains Collins would never be involved in the "war of attrition" that the provisional IRA has fought against the British.

Jordan observes that Collins accomplished "an extraordinary amount" in his short life.

"The great question you ask is, 'Had he lived ...?'"

And, you might ask: How did Collins accomplish more in three years than the IRA has in 27?

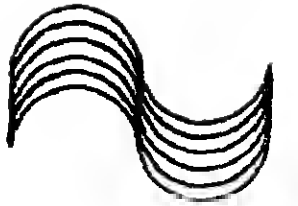
"I think it's a perfectly good question. It's its own answer, isn't it? ... I don't think Collins would have ever fought a war he couldn't win."

The second of five children with a painter-mother and teacher-father, Jordan was born in Sligo on Ireland's northwest coast. He grew up in Dublin and as a child he was allowed one film (which had to be sanctioned by the Catho-

See Page 13

Managing Director of Pars Tire Complex:

A Blooming and Competitive Market and Enhanced Quality Depends on Free Supply of Tire



Introduction:

The history of the tire industry is as long as that of advent of automobile and industrial revolution. Tire is one of the five thousand by-products derived from oil and it is an important element in road transportation industry. Japan, Germany, France, Italy and the U.S. have long experience in production of 'Radial' tires and have made considerable advances in that industry. The process of tire production in these countries depends upon further utilization of automatic machines and manpower plays a very marginal role in the production line.

and installed. The second phase continued up to this year and was inaugurated on Ordibehesht 3 (April 22) by President Hashemi Rafsanjani. In less than three months after commissioning of the second phase the capacity of PTC was enhanced to 120 tons per day which corresponded to the original target of 40 thousand t.p.a.

Doubling the company's output:

Experts believed that the increase of production from 20 thousand t.p.a. to 40 thousand t.p.a. necessitated three years ceaseless effort and lot of capital but by extra efforts, management team work, efficient supervision body and pro-



President Hashemi Rafsanjani is briefed by Hesamoldin Khoshdel Nikkhoo during his visit to Pars Tire Co.

PTC is the largest tire producer in the country by producing 40 thousand t.p.a. tire and second largest tire producer in the Middle East after Briska Co. in Turkey.

of production process. Simultaneously with the planning for expansion of production, steps were taken for provisioning raw material and allocation of hard currency by company experts and progress reports were regularly submitted to the government authorities. Fortunately by proper planning the Ministry of Industries had time enough to assess our requests and helped us improve our output.

Transfer of technology to Kavir Tire Co.:

Simultaneously with the expansion of our activities the Ministry of Industries commissioned us to transfer our technology to Kavir Tire Co. By careful planning and

cation industry.

"Next year by increasing our 'Conventional' model tires to 45 thousand t.p.a. and 'Radial' model to 10 thousand t.p.a., PTC will hit a record 55 thousand t.p.a. yield and will emerge as the largest tire producer in the region," says Nikkhoo.

260 thousand km life span for Pars tires:

The managing director of Pars Tire Complex said PTC has imported the modern 'Bias' tire technology and based on the researches made by Pirelli Co., has achieved a new record in longevity of tires used in semi-heavy trucks and has improved its life span to 260 thou-

PTC is earnestly seeking the technology for production of 'Radial' tire.

installing advanced machinery, we (PTC) succeeded to transfer our technology to Kavir Tire Co. and that factory is in the final stage of completion.

Only Iranian experts are employed:

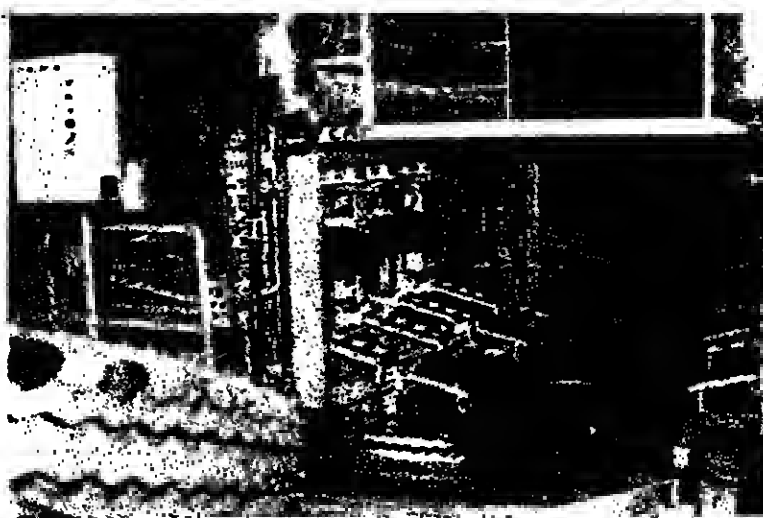
Nikkhoo says no foreign experts have been involved in the equipping and commissioning of the phase two of the factory, nor were they consulted at any stage of the process. What they did was to deliver the equipment and machinery to the Iranian engineers and technicians and the rest of work was conducted by the Iranians.

According to Nikkhoo by pro-

sand km which is far beyond present standards.

PTC is about to receive ISO 9,000 Certificate:

From the point of view of management team work and standard Pars Tire Company is in a favorable position to receive international certificates including ISO 9,000 Certificate. PTC has signed contracts for collective management implementation and is about to receive that valid international certificate.



An inside view of one of PTC's production halls.

Tire industry and its problems:

The problem of the nation's tire industry should be addressed from technical and commercial points of view. Due to increased production by PTC, the scale of demand and supply is nearing balance and in the opinion of tire producers and experts it is time that the tire be

unrestrained and open the eyes of foreigners to the realities of Islamic Republic which has been blurred by evil propaganda launched by Western propaganda.

The following are highlights of Nikkhoo's perspectives about Pars Tire Company and tire industry in general:

* Tire industry is closely works

with up-to-date technology and is always striving to improve. A tire is combination of 70 ingredients. Some are produced in the country and some are imported. Experts must be on the watch about changes in these materials so that Iran won't lag behind international producers. PTC is continually in contact with domestic universities and intends to communicate with international scientific/research centers to acquire the latest technologies in that field.

* After Islamic Revolution our tire industry has revolutionized

The second phase of Pars Tire Co. was wholly built and commissioned by Iranian experts.

land and East and West Europe which we hope will materialize and we will receive full technology. Thanks to the facilities available in the second phase and by injecting new capital to the plant we hope to send our Radial tires to the market shortly.

Export of Pars tire:

According to the ministries of Industries and Commerce tire producers can export five percent of their products. On this basis PTC is capable of exporting 1,500 tons tire for semi-heavy trucks and our major customers are African states, Persian Gulf Sheikdoms and Syria.

"Many of our customers have opened pro forma invoice and have

and I am sure 'Bias' industry can easily compete with its rivals in many countries such as Japan and South Korea. By inscribing the phrase 'Made in the Islamic Republic', PTC is displaying national zeal and belief on self-reliance which is a cause for glory.

* Although PTC is providing the fifth part of the total need for the nation, we expect further support from the Ministry of Industries in supply of raw material.

* The volume of tires produced in the country is about to balance up with demand. The government should avail itself of this opportunity to liberate sale of tires to help the industry to bloom.

* By increasing its support the

It is time that tire be sold in the free market.

paid advance and await to receive PTC tires but regrettably the Ministry of Commerce has allows us to export only 1,00 tons tire," regretted Nikkhoo and appealed to Ministry of Commerce to increase the quota of tire factories so that they can enter international competition.

government should help tire producers to increase their yield and enter the international arena.

* Our dear customers are re-

Should the government permit we can export 1,500 tons high quality tire.

quested to observe the rules for proper use of tire and do not hesitate to send their suggestions or complaints to our public relation department which is prepared to receive and attend to them.

One of the production lines of Pars Tire Co.

By fabricating 40 thousand tons tire, Pars Tires Complex (PTC) is supplying more than one fifth of the requirement of the nation and is the largest producer of tire in the country. PTC's ceaseless endeavors to enhance the production capacity to maximum, efforts toward automation and reduction of manpower, harmonization of the modern technology and updating technical know-how were matters that were discussed with Hesamoldin Khoshdel Nikkhoo, managing director and board of directors' member of Pars Tire Complex (PTC). The excerpts of our interview follows:

Background:

PTC was established in the year 1975. In that year ex-Iran Industrial Development Bank now renamed Industry and Mining Bank and the Italian Pirelli Co. jointly founded PTC with a nominal capacity of between 20 to 40 thousand tons per annum (t.p.a.) of tires.

Exploitation of the plant with 20 thousand t.p.a. tire was started in the first phase in 1984 and the related machinery were purchased

efficient scientists, PTC achieved that record target within a period of four months. By allowing all personnel to participate in the works, face the problems and shortcomings, suggest remedial solutions

By employing team management, supervision body and scientists we achieved full nominal capacity within 4 months.

and by installing modern and advanced machinery, we succeeded to double our output.

Solving the raw material problem:

Many tire producers are faced with shortage of raw material and with increasing the production such shortcomings multiplies and at times stop factories in the middle

ducting 40 thousand t.p.a. tire, PTC is the largest tire producer in the country and second largest tire producer in the Middle East after Briska Co. in Turkey.

Lofly position in the future:

Nikkhoo speaks hopefully of his company and maintains that it will attain a much more lofty rank in the transportation and tire fabri-

The Early History of 'Ilm al-Usul'

By: Martyr Seyed Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr
Translated from the Arabic by A.Q. Qara'i

PART FOUR

'Ilm al-usul rapidly entered the phase of writing and compilation. Thus al-Sheikh Muhammad b. Muhammad b. al-Nu'man, known as al-Mufid (d. 413/1022), wrote a book on usul, continuing the line taken by Ibn Abi 'Aqil and Ibn al-Junayd before him and he criticized some of their opinions. After him came his disciple al-Sayed al-Murtada (d. 436/1044) who developed the usuli tradition and wrote a comparatively extensive work on 'ilm al-usul entitled *Al-Dhari'ah*, where in the introduction of this book, unparalleled in its comprehensiveness, he mentions the usuli tendencies that distinguish the Imamiyyah for their comprehensiveness and inclusiveness.

Sayed Murtada was not alone amongst the pupils of al-Mufid to continue the development of the new science and to write on it. A number of other pupils of al-Mufid also wrote books and among them is Sallar b. 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Daylami (d. 436/1044) who wrote a book entitled *Al-Taqrif fi usul al-fiqh*.

Also among them was the pioneering legist, al-Sheikh Muhammad b. al-Hasan al-Tusi (d. 469/1079) who took over the role of leadership in *fiqh* after his teachers Sheikh Mufid and Seyed Murtada. He wrote his book *Al-Uddah fi al-Usul* on jurisprudence, which entered a new era of intellectual maturity at his hands, in the same way as *fiqh* itself rose to a higher level of expansion and ramification.

Parallel to the study of 'ilm al-usul in this era was the extensive effort made to collect the traditions narrated from the Imams of the *Ahl al-Bayt* ('a) and to merge the smaller collections into encyclopedic compilations. Thus at the end of this era the Imami tradition had produced four encyclopedic source works of hadith, *Al-Kafi* by Thiqat al-Islam Muhammad b. Ya'qub al-Kulayni (d. 329/940), *Man la Yahduruh al-faqih* by al-Saduq, Muhammad b. 'Ali b. al-Hussain (d. 381/991) and *Al-Tahdhib* and also *Al-Istibsar* by Sheikh Tusi, who wrote the former book during the life of Sheikh Mufid. These works are known in the Imami parlance as 'the Four Books' (*al-kutub al-Arab'ah*).

The Development of Theory and Application by Sheikh Tusi

The share of Sheikh Tusi in usul was not confined to continuing the line of his predecessors. Rather his pioneering work opened a new chapter of all-round development in legal and scientific thought. His book *Al-Uddah* represented the usuli side of this development, whereas his work *Al-Mabsut* represented a great advancement in legal studies on the level of application parallel to the development of theoretical jurisprudence.

The qualitative difference between the scientific approach derived from this development and the earlier approach allows us to consider Sheikh Tusi the dividing line between the two scientific eras, the preliminary era and the age of scientific maturity. It was the pioneering role of the Sheikh which brought the preliminary era to a close and launched a new sci-

entific age in which *fiqh* and *usul* acquired unprecedented sophistication, precision, and a characteristic scientific mentality.

Perhaps the best possible way, within the scope of this lecture, to explain the great development that occurred in this science at the hands of Sheikh Tusi is to consider two excerpts, one from the introduction of *Al-Uddah* and another from the introduction of his book *Al-Mabsut*.

As to the Text from 'Uddah.

He Writes in Its Introduction:

You - may God confirm you - have asked me to dictate a brief treatise in *usul al-fiqh* that would encompass all its chapters in a concise and brief manner in accordance with the rules of our madhhab and on the basis of our *usul*. However, every group of those who have written on this subject has taken a path in accordance with their principles, and none of our companions is known to have devoted himself to this subject except what our Sheikh, Abu 'Abd Allah, may God have mercy upon him, has discussed in his brief treatise in *usul al-fiqh*. But he did not treat the subject thoroughly and left our certain things that are necessary to be taken recourse to and need to be clarified. And though our august Seyed, al-Murtada, may God maintain his exalted station even though he has treated it abundantly in his lectures (*Amali*) and what is studied under him - has expounded it, he has not written anything on this subject that one may refer to and rely upon. As you have said, this branch of science requires much attention, for the *Shari'ah* is totally based upon it and there can be no knowledge of anything without its basic principles, and one who does not firmly understand its principles is only a narrator and lay follower, not a scholar.

This excerpt from Sheikh Tusi reflects the extent of the significance of the *usul* work undertaken by him, may God sanctify his soul, in his book, *Al-Uddah*, and its foundational role in this field, and the *usul* opinions formulated by

him within the general framework of the Imami school of law.

This citation also confirms, from a historical point of view, the

pioneering role of Sheikh Mufid in writing on 'ilm al-usul in the Shi'i tradition. It also indicates that Sheikh Tusi wrote his book *Ud-*

dah, or started it, in the life of Seyed Murtada, as he prays for his long life. Perhaps, for this reason, he did not know anything at the

time about al-Murtada's book *Al-Dhari'ah*, for he denies that he has a book on 'ilm al-usul. This means that Tusi began his book before al-Murtada had written the *Dhari'ah* or that the *Dhari'ah* had been written already but was not publicly circulated and so the Sheikh did not know about it when he began writing this book.

Sheikh Tusi Writes in His Great Book on Fiqh, Al-Mabsut:

"I have long been hearing a group of our opponents from amongst the pseudo-faqhah (*al-mutafaqhihah*) and dabblers in legal studies (*munasabina ila 'ilm al-furu'*) speak in derogatory terms of our Imami companions as ascribe to them legal poverty and paucity of issues, saying, 'They are undiscerning traditionalists (*ahl al-hashw wa al-munaghasah*), for one who rejects analogical reasoning (*qiyas*) and *ijtihad* cannot have access to (the solution of) many issues nor can draw the ramifications from the general principles (*al-tafri' ala al-usul*). That is because the greater part of these issues are deducible [only] by these two methods.' That is due to their ignorance of our legal positions (*madhahib*) and their absence of studied knowledge of our juristic principles (*usul*). And had they studied our traditions and our *fiqh*, they would have known that the greater part of the issues they mention are found in our traditions - either as pronouncements of a particular or general import, express or implicit - as authoritative texts from our Imams, whose statements are on a par with the statements of the Prophet (S) in respect of authority (*hujjah*). However, the great number of issues dealt with in their books are such that there is no legal detail (*far'*) which does not have a way of approach (*madkhal*) in our *usul* and a way out leading to our *madhhab*, though it is not arrived at by the way of *qiyas* but by a method yielding [certain] knowledge that is obligatory to be acted upon, and this approach is made possible by such [means] as basing on the *asl* and the rule off *bara'at al-dhim-mah*, and so on.

To be Continued



Ireland Relearns Its Ancient Language

DUBLIN (Reuters) - If you want to impress somebody in an Irish pub these days, try chatting to them in an ancient Celtic dialect first spoken by pagan tribes more than 2,500 years ago.

After decades of decline, the Irish language is making a comeback. Once derided as a dead language, it is now being learned by increasing numbers of people seeking to rediscover their country's native tongue.

"Irish has become fashionable again," said Aine O'Cuireain, manager of the Teaching Institute at Gael Linn, an organization dedicated to teaching the Irish language.

"There was a time when, if you were in the pub with friends and you were speaking Irish, people would give you odd looks," she told Reuters. "Now the looks would tend to be admiring."

The Irish language was brought to the island by migrating Celtic tribes long before the birth of Je-

sus. For centuries it was Ireland's native language and the basis for a flourishing literary culture.

But as the English colonization of Ireland began in the 16th century, the language was marginalized and suppressed and English became the language of the ruling classes.

By the time the independent Irish state was born in 1922, the Irish language was already fading. The new country made Irish its main official language and teaching of Irish became compulsory in schools.

But the language continued to decline, surviving mainly in remote areas on the country's wild fringes.

A 1993 survey by the Linguistics Institute of Ireland estimated that only four percent of the country had native-speaker ability in Irish, while a further nine percent could follow most conversations.

But the tide is turning. Gael Linn says the demand for its language classes has soared in the last two years.

"There has been a substantial increase," O'Cuireain said. "The graph is definitely going up all the time."

There has also been strong growth in the number of children attending schools where lessons are taught in Irish rather than English.

Gael scoileanna, the national body which represents Irish-language schools, says the number of these schools in Ireland has risen to more than 125 compared with 79 in 1990.

O'Cuireain says there are many reasons for the revival.

"An increasing number of people have realized the significance and importance of speaking their own language," she said. "People have grown more proud of their heritage."

Growing interest in Irish dance and music, illustrated by the success of shows like "Riverdance", has also helped.

"A lot of people become interested in Irish music and songs, and then realize it would add another layer to their understanding if they

knew the language."

It is not just the Irish who have a new-found interest in the language. "We get quite a few foreigners on our courses and the number is increasing," O'Cuireain said. "Many people from overseas have an interest in Irish culture, and there are a lot of Americans looking for their roots."

Far from running out of steam, the revival in Irish is expected to accelerate. The language is about to receive a huge boost with the launch of the country's first-ever national Irish-language television station.

Teilifis Na Gaeilge goes on air on October 31, broadcasting programs in Irish from its base in the hide village of Baile Na Abhann on the wild Connemara coast.

Language activists are jubilant. The Gaelic League, formed a century ago amid Ireland's independence struggle to promote the Irish language, says the new channel will have a huge impact.

"The establishment of Teilifis Na Gaeilge will prove to be the

single most important boost for Irish since the early days of the state when it was decided Irish would be taught each year to all schoolchildren," said Sean Mac Mathuna, the Gaelic League's general secretary.

But not everybody welcomes the rejuvenation of Irish. Some argue it is a dead and insular language and say the government should not be spending money on a television channel for a language spoken only by a tiny minority of the population.

A recent survey found 26 percent of Irish adults were opposed to the new channel.

The same survey found that, although 56 percent thought the language was "a vital part of our culture", 42 percent believed it was "really part of our history and past". It is clear that many remain to be convinced about the value of Irish.

"There is still some cynicism and sneering about Irish," O'Cuireain said. "But we believe that is changing. The Irish language is looking up."

